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## Number of drug addicts drops in Bahrain

BAHRAIN, Jan 16, (Reuters): Tough anti-drug laws and a public awareness campaign have drastically cut the number of drug addicts registered in Bahrain, a senior hospital official said today.

Dr Mohammed Al Haddad, chairman of Bahrain's Psychiatric Hospital, said the number of addicts, mainly heroin users, registered at its addiction ward fell to 190 in 1988 from 4,378 in 1984.

"This is a drastic reduction and is due to multiple factors," he said. "The introduction of capital punishment for smugglers in 1984 is one. Police have been more stringent in dealing with smuggling."

Haddad said a few addicts might be unknown to his hospital but added: "I am confident nearly all have passed through our system."

He said a media campaign aimed at educating the public on the dangers of drug abuse was probably one of the most important factors behind the decline.

No one in Bahrain, which has a population of 450,000, has been executed for drug smuggling.

## Oman appoints new ministers

NICOSIA, Jan 16, (Reuters): Oman appointed new health and housing ministers today and made the former health minister a special adviser to Sultan Qaboos Bin Saied.

Decrees carried by the official Oman News Agency said Ali Bin Mousa had been appointed minister of health and Malik Al Muammari minister of housing.

Bin Mousa replaced Mubarak Al Khadouri, who was made special adviser to the Sultan, while Ali Muammari replaced Abdullah Bin Saif Al Bousaidi. The changes take effect immediately, the decrees said.

## Both sides demand the other make concessions

# Iraq and Iran show no sign of budging

NICOSIA, Jan 16, (AP): Iraq and Iran today demanded the other make concessions to break the deadlock in United Nations-sponsored peace talks to end their eight-year-old war. But neither showed any signs of budging.

Iraq's Deputy Foreign Minister, Wiam Al Zahawi, said that Tehran rules out any progress in the stalled negotiations unless Iraq withdraws its troops from 259 square miles (1,000 square kilometres) of Iranian territory they occupy.

Iraq's Deputy Foreign Minister, Wiam Al Zahawi, rejected any military pullback to pre-war borders troop withdrawal, as envisaged in the United Nations Security Council ceasefire resolution, before Iran guarantees the safety of navigation of Iraqi shipping in the Gulf.

### Blocked

The dispute has blocked progress since the talks started Aug. 25, five days after the UN-sponsored ceasefire took effect. The two ministers were in Cyprus to attend a non-aligned conference. Iran and Iraq have blamed each other for the peace talks deadlock.

Each demanded full implementation of the first point of the 10-point ceasefire agreement — an immediate ceasefire on land, at sea and in the air and a withdrawal by both sides to the pre-war border. But they had a different interpretation of what the first point demanded.

Lavassani said that "obviously, after the establishment of a

ceasefire, withdrawal to internationally recognised border had to be implemented without delay."

Al Zahawi said: "They ask for a withdrawal of troops, but of course this will come only after a consolidation of the ceasefire on land, at sea and in the air, as demanded by the first point of the Security Council resolution."

He charged that Iran's insistence that it has the right under international law to intercept Iraqi-bound shipping until a peace treaty is signed "means that the ceasefire has not yet been fully implemented."

### Waive

The Iranians have intercepted one vessel in the Gulf since the ceasefire, but it has declared it was ready to waive its right to do so if the Iraqis withdraw their troops.

"This is not good enough, we don't accept favours from Iran," Al Zahawi declared.

"If Iran feels free, at any time, to exercise this right, this means a resort to force, since our ships will not obey an order to stop. This means the ceasefire will be violated," he argued.

"They expect us to accept a blockade of Iraqi ports, and expect to have full freedom to use their ports without any sign of a similar blockade by us. But a ceasefire should benefit both sides equally," Al Zahawi added.

He said Iraq has proposed that both sides sign an agreement they would not interfere with the freedom of shipping, "but they refused."

Lavassani defended Iran's stand, saying Tehran was "serious when we accepted" Security Council Resolution 598, "and we still stand by this commitment."

"We believe that 598 should be fully implemented on the basis of the secretary-general's outline plan, which has been endorsed by the Security Council."

He said that "the present situation along the border is more or less satisfactory. But we're concerned about its fragility which stems from Iraq's refusal to comply with the initiatives and plans of the secretary-general."

"Due to the Iraqi occupation of our territory and its non-compliance with the secretary-general's initiatives, the situation remains tense," he said. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said today it was ready to fly home some 255 Iranian prisoners of war Iraq has offered to release unilaterally.

### Release

A spokeswoman said in Geneva the ICRC had been notified of Baghdad's decision but was waiting for a list of those prisoners the Iraqi government planned to release and to interview each separately to make sure they wanted to go home.

Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed today praised the Iraqi decision to release some Iranian POWs.

"It is an honourable initiative from Iraq and President Saddam," said Sheikh Sabah.

## US backs UK move for Mideast peace

LONDON, Jan 16, (Agencies): British Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs William Waldegrave met Arab League Secretary-General Cheddi Klibi today to discuss British relations with Syria and Libya.

He also told the Times newspaper that the United States supported Britain's initiatives for peace in the Middle East, including Waldegrave's meeting on Friday with PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

Waldegrave, who earlier said Israel must change or be left behind, told the Times: "The Israelis have got to realise that their handling of the occupied territories has lost them the support in Western Europe, a report said today."

He also told the Times newspaper that the United States supported Britain's initiatives for peace in the Middle East, including Waldegrave's meeting on Friday with PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

### Welcome

In an interview from Tunis, Waldegrave also spoke of US support for British moves.

"The Americans certainly welcome our move because it derives from the same analysis that the recent steps taken by Mr Arafat and the Palestinians are real ...

The Palestinians have genuinely moved," he told the newspaper. Waldegrave met Arab League Secretary-General Cheddi Klibi today to discuss British relations with Syria and Libya.

Meanwhile, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein have urged the incoming Bush administration to make the Middle East a top priority and to persuade Israel to negotiate an end to the Palestinian problem.

But neither leader suggested in separate interviews published yesterday in Time magazine that Washington launch new peace initiatives.

### Stressed

The two Arab leaders stressed instead on an international peace conference that already has the backing of all regional parties except Israel. They said Washington must use its considerable influence to bring Israel to the bargaining table.

The PLO's East Berlin mission was turned into the embassy of Palestine today, in line with East Germany's recognition of the

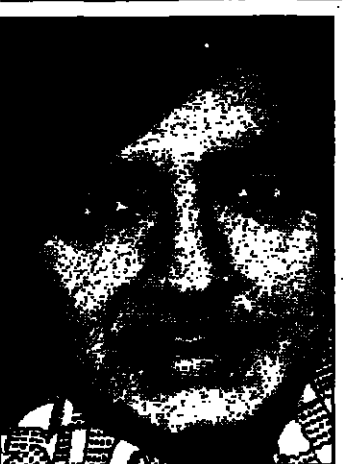
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آج کے اردو صفحات میں  
○ افغان مسئلہ حل کرنے  
کیلئے پاکستان سے سوویت یونین  
کی اپیل  
○ افغان مجاہدین کے  
رہنماؤں کو پاکستان کا مشورہ  
○ پاکستان میں نئی جنگ جوں  
سے بچ جائیں گے  
○ سکھ ہائی تکریوں نے  
پاکستانی ہونے کا دعویٰ کر دیا  
○ بنگلہ دیش میں ہلاک  
شدگان کی تعداد سو ہو گئی  
○ بھارت کی سیاسی  
صورتحال، مراسلات

## WEATHER

CLOUDY weather continues with moderate to fresh north-westerly wind causing dust.  
State of sea: rough  
High water: 9.00 am, 7.00 pm  
Low water: 2.00 am, 1.00 pm  
Sunrise: 6.43 am  
Sunset: 5.13 pm  
Maximum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 16°C 61°F  
Ahmed: 15°C 59°F  
Falkland: 14°C 57°F  
Minimum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 1°C 34°F  
Ahmed: 0°C 32°F  
Falkland: -5°C 23°F  
Maximum temperatures expected:  
Kuwait: 12°C 54°F  
Ahmed: 13°C 55°F  
Falkland: 14°C 57°F  
Maximum humidity recorded:  
Kuwait: 59 per cent  
Ahmed: 70 per cent  
Falkland: 72 per cent



## Prem Nazir is dead

By Fathima Ahmed

FAMOUS Indian film star Prem Nazir died yesterday in Madras after a prolonged illness. He was 59.

He had been suffering from a bleeding peptic ulcer and was hospitalised on Dec 26 at a private hospital in Madras. On Saturday, his condition deteriorated and he was put on artificial respiration.

Doctors said he died of a viral fever which he contracted during his illness.

Prem Nazir, whose real name was Abdul Kader, was born in Chirayinkil, a village near Trivandrum in Kerala.

### Feat

A cult figure, he dominated the Kerala film industry for over three decades, during which period he acted in more than 650 films.

He played the lead in 600 films, a feat that accorded him a mention in the Guinness Book of World Records.

His Malayalam films "Irrutinte Atmavu" (The Soul of the Night) and "Murapennu" won national awards. Besides Malayalam movies, he also acted in more than 40 Tamil, Telugu and Kannada films.

He started acting in films in

(Continued on Page 2)



HH the Amir meeting troops in Bubiyan.

## Amir inspects troops in Bubiyan

KUWAIT, Jan 16, (Agencies): HH the Amir, who is also the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, today toured the Bubiyan military command and Umm Qasr.

He was accompanied by the Defence Minister, Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed.

The Amir inspected the troops and was informed of the tasks performed by them after the ceasefire in the Iraq-Iran war.

Sheikh Nawaf said the visits show Amir's keenness to keep himself abreast of the situation in all military sectors and the performance of the troops.

Sheikh Nawaf said such visits by the Amir have positive effect on Army officers and soldiers.

The Amir later visited the nearby Subiyah peninsula accompanied by several ministers.

### Subiyah

He discussed with them the site of Subiyah city, the construction of Bubiyan park and the preparation of the largest number possible of chalets for the citizens.

Kuwait is building a new city in Subiyah.

Bubiyan is a stone's throw from Iraq's Faw peninsula, occupied for two years by Iran and recaptured four months before a ceasefire last August. Kuwait accused Iran of firing Silkworm missiles at its oil installations from Faw.

## US persuaded to shift manoeuvres

KUWAIT, Jan 16, (Reuters): Influential Arab states persuaded the United States to cancel planned air combat manoeuvres off the Libyan coast this week, the secretary-general of the Arab League was quoted today as saying.

Cheddi Klibi told a Kuwaiti newspaper that the Arab states, which he did not identify, told Washington it should cancel the exercises to reduce tensions after US Navy jets shot down two Libyan planes over the Mediterranean on Jan 4.

The United States said the manoeuvres would be held in another part of the Mediterranean.

## Former Belgian premier kidnapped

BRUSSELS, Jan 16, (Reuters): Belgian police searching for former Prime Minister Paul Vanden Boeynants began combing woods near the city of Mons today after an anonymous phone call said his body was there, judicial sources said.

The authorities had launched a major kidnapping inquiry after Vanden Boeynants disappeared from his Brussels home on Saturday night and anonymous telephone callers said he had been abducted.

"Kidnapping is still the most probable theory," chief investigator Andre van Doren told reporters earlier.

## Bangladesh launches investigations

## Death toll in train disaster reaches 135

DHAKA, Jan 16, (Agencies): Wailing relatives collected bodies from morgues today while others frantically searched mangled wreckage for the missing as the official death toll from Bangladesh's worst train disaster rose to 135.

"Hundreds of people are visiting the morgue every hour trying to find their near and dear ones," said nurse Afroza Begum.

"It's hard to describe people's woes. A mother wailing over the coffin of her child, a brother embracing the body of his sister," said doctor Mujibullah.

Many of the survivors will be permanently maimed, he said. Over 1,000 people were injured when the two crowded trains yesterday crashed head-on near Pubail, 34 kilometres (22 miles) from Dhaka.

### Crushed

Officials fear the death toll might reach 200.

Doctors at Dhaka Medical College said three bodies were found crushed under tonnes of wreckage 24 hours after the collision.

Twelve other critically injured passengers died in Dhaka's three hospitals today, they said.

Health officials said nearly 700 people, including President Hussain Muhammad Ershad, donated blood for the disaster victims, many with severed limbs or smashed bones.

A preliminary inquiry indicated that the accident occurred because the driver of one train ignored orders not to proceed past Tongi, said Jamil

Ahmed, the general manager of Bangladesh Railway.

"The express train driver was asked to stop at Tongi, 24 kilometres (15 miles) from Dhaka, but he disobeyed orders," Ahmed said.

Ahmed said the driver, who fled the scene of the disaster and was reported missing, a dispatcher and an assistant dispatcher were suspended from their jobs.

### Cause

Two investigations have been started to find the cause of the accident, initially blamed on faulty signalling. One inquiry is headed by Supreme Court Justice Latifur Rahman, while the other one was launched by railway officials.

Matiur Rahman Majumder, injured assistant driver of one of the trains, told reporters: "We were proceeding with a line clear signal when suddenly the other train appeared and crashed into ours."

Shortly after the accident, senior railway officials said they suspected operators may not have known how to properly work a sophisticated digital signalling system installed five days earlier.

"Human failure and wrong signalling may have caused the two trains to come on the same track, leading to the collision," said one official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Dhaka newspapers today blamed the accident on human error.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Syria welcomes formation of Arab League committee

DAMASCUS, Jan 16, (Reuters): Syria welcomed today the formation of an Arab League ministerial committee to try to resolve Lebanon's political crisis.

"The committee is certainly an important step in the search for a way to put an end to the present situation in Lebanon which has been exploited by the nation's enemies," the official daily Syria Times said in an editorial.

"A solution would not be impossible if it preserves Lebanon's unity and Arab identity and bars the elements which infringe on them or threaten them," it added.

Syria, the main foreign power

broker in Lebanon where it has an estimated 25,000 troops, is not a member of the Arab League contact group on Lebanon headed by Kuwait Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

Sheikh Sabah today contacted acting Lebanese Premier Salim Al Hoss and head of Lebanese military government Michel Oun over telephone to make arrangements for a meeting in Tunis later this month.

Sheikh Sabah also tried to contact the Speaker of the Lebanese Parliament, Hussein Al Husseini, who was unavailable.

## Israel to launch 'war' against stones

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 16, (Reuters): Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin under pressure to quash a 13-month-old Palestinian uprising, is expected to launch a tough new policy against stone-throwers, security sources said.

The measures will allow military authorities to jail Palestinian stone-throwers for up to five years and to demolish the homes of those who cause injury.

The "war against stones" will also allow military authorities to impose fines on parents of Palestinians under 18 arrested for stone-throwing attacks, the

sources added. Parents of 30 Palestinian youths in the Gaza Strip paid fines as high as 1,000 shekels (\$550) last week to release their children from prison. Security sources estimate that stone-throwing accounts for 80 per cent of all anti-Israeli unrest in the territories.

Israeli soldiers shot dead an Arab teenager in the occupied West Bank today and a Gaza youth died of wounds received in an earlier clash, bringing to 10 the number of Palestinians shot dead in the last five days.

Two Palestinians have died

each day since Thursday in clashes with soldiers, prompting a cabinet debate over Army riot-control methods, particularly the use of supposedly non-lethal plastic bullets.

Energy Minister Moshe Shalal noted in yesterday's cabinet meeting that casualties had risen while the number of protests in the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories had declined, government sources said.

During a clash with stone-throwing students in the West Bank town of Hebron, troops shot dead Radwan Abu Sbeih,

17, and Ahmed Mohamed Abu Mustafa of Khan Yunis in the Gaza Strip died in hospital of head wounds sustained on Saturday, the Army said.

Their deaths brought the number of Palestinian fatalities in the 13-month-old uprising to at least 367. Fourteen Israelis have also died in the violence.

In Jerusalem, several extreme right-wing Israelis linked to former anti-Arab parliamentary Rabbi Meir Kahane said they planned to create an independent, "state of Judea" in the occupied territories if Israel decided to withdraw from there.

## ARAB TIMES

## Grand Bingo

## KD 250 must be won

Coupons for Game No. 68 will appear from Jan 18 to Jan 24. Last date for sending entries is Jan 26 and numbers will be drawn from Jan 28.

### PRIZES

Four Corners	KD 25
Top Line	KD 25
First Full House	KD100
Second Full House	KD 60
Third Full House	KD 40



## Long-range planning

## Bush team to review US policy

WASHINGTON, Jan 16, (AP): George Bush's foreign policy team plans a sweeping review of US strategic interests in view of changes in the Soviet Union and to cope with economic competition from other countries, according to top aides.

Bush, who becomes President on Jan 20, has said that such a review would delay the resumption of arms talks with the Soviets from their Feb 15 date. The review is expected to change the Defence Department budget that President Reagan sent to Capitol Hill this month.

**Projects**  
The Defence Department wants to spend almost \$8.6 billion on military construction projects in fiscal 1990, including more than \$1 billion for work outside the US.

Reagan's administration also is suggesting another \$9.6 billion be spent the following fiscal year. The largest amounts overseas would be spent in West Ger-

many, the United Kingdom, Italy, the Philippines and South Korea, in that order.

Senior Bush aides, interviewed on condition of anonymity, said the goal is not a radical shift in US-Soviet relations or in American strategic forces.

Rather, the Bush team wants to "do some long-range planning, to sort of look ahead, to hypothesize the kind of world that we would like to see, and then to look at the kind of forces that are at work or against that kind of world," said one man who has been named to a senior post.

**Solution**  
Bush and his appointees also plan to seek a diplomatic solution in Central America, said a second senior foreign policy adviser to Bush.

If the diplomatic effort fails to bring greater democracy to Nicaragua and end the leftist insurgency against US-backed El Salvador, then the Bush

administration might ask Congress to resume military aid to the Contra guerrillas, who have been fighting Nicaragua's Sandinista government.

In the Middle East, the administration also will be seeking to determine whether an international peace conference is possible in the wake of statements by PLO chairman Yasser Arafat that he opposes the use of terrorism, said an aide.

US-Soviet relations likely will occupy centre stage early in the new administration.

**Change**  
Bush has said that the reform policies of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev present new opportunities for the United States, but that the Kremlin leader has not changed the basic nature of the communist state.

"I am impressed with what Mr Gorbachev says and I really think he wants better relations," Bush said in a recent television

interview.

The improved climate in US-Soviet relations under Reagan and Gorbachev has started to change the shape of the world, said one Bush aide.

Rather than struggling with the heritage of the cold war, the aide said, "it is time to think about what kind of Europe we and the Europeans really want to see, what kind of relationship with the Soviet Union would we like to construct if we could."

**Opportunity**  
And if US perception of a Soviet threat diminishes, said the aide, the administration will have greater opportunity to turn to the fundamental questions of America's relations with its trading partners in Europe and Asia.

The new administration will need to determine "what kind of world trading system is possible, and how can we shape it," the aide said. "Those are the kind of things... Bush is talking about."

## Gales cause flooding in Scotland

GLASGOW, Scotland, Jan 16, (AP): High winds and torrential rain swept across Scotland yesterday, flooding roads and knocking out electric power in several areas, police and meteorologists said.

The West Highland railway line north of Crianlarich — 40 miles (65 kms) north of Glasgow — was closed by floodwater in three places last night and power was off in the remote Shetland Islands, 120 miles (193 kms) off the northernmost tip of Scotland.

The London Weather Centre said winds gusted to 80 miles (129 kms) per hour over the Fourth Road bridge at Edinburgh, to 114 miles (183 kms) per hour on Collafirth Hill in the Shetlands and to 130 miles (210 kms) per hour at the summit of the 4,084 foot (1,245 kms) Cairn Gorm Mountain in central Scotland.

**Closed**  
The Automobile Association reported several main roads and some minor ones closed by floodwater, as the gales brought up to three inches of rain in 48 hours, undermining road shoulders and bursting river banks.

In the north, police issued flood warnings and urged farmers to take their animals in from low-lying ground.

In the south, power was disrupted to 2,000 homes, mainly in scattered areas of Fife, East Lothian, and the southwest when trees fell on power lines or lines were damaged by the wind.

The Coast Guards reported few serious problems but said bad weather delayed some ships, including a freight ferry from Northern Ireland to Ardrossan, 25 miles (40 kms) southwest of Glasgow.

The London Weather Centre said Scotland lay in the path of a mild and moist southwesterly airstream of tropical origin.

## Romania snubs East-West arms, human rights accord

VIENNA, Jan 16, (Reuters): Romania was the only dissenting voice when negotiators from East and West agreed yesterday to launch new disarmament talks and improve human rights in a package hailed as a milestone in relations.

Romania was the only one of the 35 participating countries which failed to adopt completely the final document of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE).

**Endorsed**  
The package, which took 27 months to finalise, includes the framework for new talks on conventional arms cuts and commitments by governments to increase the rights of individuals against the state.

The agreement is due to be endorsed this week in Vienna by foreign ministers, including the Soviet Union's Eduard Shevard-

nadze and US Secretary of State George Shultz on his last official trip.

The Soviet and US delegations welcomed the conclusion of the talks, a follow-up to the 1975 Helsinki Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, as a landmark in East-West relations.

"This is an excellent document, one that can play a historic role in the Helsinki process," US chief delegate Warren Zimmermann told a news conference.

"It is a milestone, an important milestone but it is not the end of the process," Soviet chief delegate Yuri Kashev described the document's human rights stipulations, which underline freedom of movement and religion and set limits for government delays in issuing visas, as "a major breakthrough in this area."

## US leads in chemical weapons technology

WASHINGTON, Jan 16, (Reuters): The United States now leads the world in chemical weapons technology and plans to produce one million of its new binary poison gas weapons in the next decade, according to the Washington Post.

It said the Army plans to produce first binary artillery shells, then "Bigeye" binary bombs and binary rockets at a cost of \$3 billion, the Post said yesterday.

The binary poison gas weapons keep various relatively harmless chemicals in separate containers and mix them together on the way to enemy targets to produce deadly gas.

The Army Pine Bluff Arsenal in Arkansas has been producing a basic chemical for the weapons since December 1987, when the US Congress agreed to renew US chemical weapons production. President Reagan had pressed

for renewal of chemical weapons production on grounds that stockpiles of US unitary chemical weapons were deteriorating at a time when the Soviet Union was building a modern chemical weapon.

Since then Moscow has halted chemical weapons production and has announced plans to begin destroying its chemical weapons.

As a result, the Post said, the United States has become the technological leader of chemical weapons production as it tries to keep Libya and other Middle East countries from producing chemical weapons themselves.

The United States has been among countries seeking an international ban against use of chemical weapons but US officials say they will not halt chemical weapons production until a way is found to put an effective ban in force.

## British jumbo jet lands after bomb threat

TOKYO, Jan 16, (Agencies): A London-bound British Airways jumbo jet carrying 240 people made an emergency landing in northern Japan today after an anonymous caller told the airline a bomb was on board, a Transport Ministry official said.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the threat was made in a telephone call to the airline's reservation office in Tokyo, about one hour after Flight 8, a Boeing 747, had taken off from Tokyo's Narita airport.

The official quoted the anonymous caller as saying in Japanese, "a plastic bomb was planted on board the plane. It is set to explode at 4 pm."

**Checking**  
He said the plane was over the Sea of Japan when the bomb warning was received, and landed safely at the New Chitose airport on Japan's northernmost island of Hokkaido at 5:37 (0837 GMT).

A Chitose airport police official said authorities were searching the plane but had found no explosives.

Many airlines operating in Asia have stepped up their security precautions following intelligence reports that an identified Far Eastern carrier has been targeted for a possible hijack or bomb attack sometime in January.

**Cleared**  
Meanwhile, a Greek jumbo jet diverted to Cyprus after a bomb threat from an extremist Greek group resumed its flight today after receiving security clearance.

Sources at Larnaca airport said police assisted by tracker dogs and X-ray machines had searched the plane, its passengers and their luggage and found no evidence of a bomb.

The Olympic Airways airliner, was carrying 421 people on a non-stop flight from Athens to Bangkok.

## Israeli spy chief claims Ibrahim planted Pan Am bomb

LONDON, Jan 16, (AP): The Sunday Post newspaper in Scotland quotes a former high-ranking Israeli intelligence agent as saying he believes Abu Ibrahim, head of a Palestinian group, planned the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 last month.

The newspaper quoted former Mossad officer Raphael Eitan as saying he had "no doubt" the bombers were Ibrahim's May 15 Palestinian group, based in Baghdad, Iraq, and that the bomb was made there and probably carried on board the Boeing 747 by an unwitting accomplice.

The May 15 group has offices in Syria and Libya, as well as in the Iraqi capital, Eitan was quoted as saying.

"They are led by Abu Ibrahim, a qualified engineer," Eitan was quoted as telling the newspaper. "In the early days Ibrahim received all his financial support from Iraqi intelligence, who continue to provide him with cash and premises."

**Interview**  
In the interview published today in "She" magazine, the prime minister said women have made gains in many fields, and should be given more responsibility in government.

"We must constantly make it clear that we are looking for



Bush reads the message he received in a fortune cookie following dinner at a Chinese restaurant in Washington.

## Gorbachev wants to visit UK soon

LONDON, Jan 16, (Reuters): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev told Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in a personal message yesterday that he wanted to make an official visit to Britain as soon as possible, Thatcher's office said.

The message was delivered by Soviet Ambassador Leonid Zamyatin, who saw the prime minister on his return from a trip to Moscow for a Central Committee meeting.

"Mr Gorbachev confirmed his desire to pay an official visit to Britain and said dates should be agreed as soon as possible," a spokeswoman at Thatcher's office said.

"Mrs Thatcher said that Mr Gorbachev was welcome whenever he chose to come to Britain," the spokeswoman added.

**Cancel**  
Gorbachev had been scheduled to visit Britain a month ago but had to cancel the trip at the last minute when an earthquake devastated Soviet Armenia on Dec 7.

He cut short his visit to the United States and returned to Moscow, postponing visits to Britain and Cuba.

The government spokeswoman said Gorbachev's message, delivered orally by Zamyatin, also dealt with various international and bilateral issues but gave no details.



Lee Atwater, chairman-elect of the Republican national committee, gives Coretta King a personal message from Bush.

## Americans remember King

NEW YORK, Jan 16, (AP): Americans remembered Rev Martin Luther King Jr as a man whose Christian faith inspired a rebirth of freedom.

King was hailed in sermons and speeches yesterday, the day the murdered civil rights leader would have turned 60.

"It's not just a one-day remembrance, but we need to remember every day what he stood for and what he died for," the Rev Clay Evans, who worked with King, told worshippers at Fellowship Baptist Church in Chicago.

"I think we have to make it not just a holiday, and not just make it a holy day... but a holy day."

King's widow, Coretta Scott King, delivered her annual commemorative speech to 1,200 peo-

## Study shows high figures of suicide in Soviet Union

MOSCOW, Jan 16, (AP): A Soviet weekly has revealed alarmingly high statistics on Soviet suicides, with more than 81,000 Soviets killing themselves in 1984 when only about 29,000 Americans took their own lives the same year.

The article in the latest edition of Ogonyok magazine said, however, that the total number of Soviet suicides had peaked in 1984 and is now dropping, a change it credited to the anti-drinking drive championed by President Mikhail Gorbachev.

In contrast, suicides among Soviet children are on the increase Ogonyok said.

Ogonyok's study on Soviet suicide — titled "The final step" — was a dramatic illustration of the greater frankness in Soviet media fostered by Gorbachev's campaign for "glasnost," or greater openness.

Statistics on suicide, as well as other demographic data on the Soviet population, were once treated as state secrets and not mentioned by state-run media.

**Abolished**  
Official data on Soviet suicides were published in the 1920s by the government's department on moral statistics, but the agency was abolished by dictator Josef V. Stalin in the 1930s.

Ogonyok said statistics on Soviet suicides were revealed only several weeks ago. In 1984, it said, 81,417 Soviets killed themselves.

By comparison, 29,286 Americans committed suicide that year, according to the US

## Cold weather kills 50 in Bangladesh

DHAKA, Jan 16, (Reuters): Bangladesh's coldest weather for 20 years has killed at least 50 people, including 30 who died from exposure over the past three days, police said today.

They said most of the victims were poor and forced to sleep outside after recent floods and cyclones destroyed their homes.

Weather officials said the temperature fell to four degrees Celsius (39.2 F) last night in Rajshahi and Sylhet district — the country's lowest for 20 years.

"The cold spell will last two or three days more," one official said.

## Pakistan to set up AIDS centres

ISLAMABAD, Jan 16, (Reuters): Pakistan will set up AIDS testing centres and foreigners will need certificates to prove they are free from the virus, the official Associated Press of Pakistan news agency said today.

It said a cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto approved a number of measures to stop the disease being imported and spread in Pakistan.

"Foreigners coming to Pakistan for an extended period of residence would be required to furnish a certificate confirming they do not carry the AIDS virus," the report said.

It said Pakistan had few cases of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and added that the threat of the disease to Pakistan was from abroad.

**Measures**  
Other measures approved by the cabinet included the immediate screening of high risk groups such as drug abusers and professional blood donors, a media campaign to alert the public about the hazards of AIDS and new methods to destroy disposable syringes and needles.

## Death toll in train disaster reaches 135

(Continued from Page 1)

But Communications Minister Anwar Hossain disputed their claims, saying more than 200 trains had travelled along the track since the system was installed on Jan 10.

Rescue workers using two large cranes pulled apart the twisted wreckage today and opened the track again.

Passenger Arefa Khatun said from his hospital bed: "There was a big bang followed by heartbreaking cries. When I regained consciousness I was lying here."

Trains flew black flags and Bangladesh's national flag was at half mast on all government buildings today to mourn the death of the passengers.

Eshad announced yesterday the families of the dead would be given 100,000 taka (\$3,000) each. Those injured will also receive compensation.

Officials said at least 4,000 people, many of them non-paying passengers perched precariously on carriage roofs or footboards, were on the Dhaka-bound "Urm" express and a mail train travelling to the southern port city of Chittagong when the two collided.

**Survivors**  
Ahmed declined to comment on reports by survivors, witnesses and local officials that up to 400 people were killed, with hundreds of bodies trapped under the wrecked cars.

Reporters were kept away from the site by security forces, making it difficult to verify the conflicting tolls.

## US backs UK move for Mideast peace

(Continued from Page 1)

PLO's declaration of an independent state last year.

The official news agency ADN said the PLO had asked to change the title and the East German government agreed.

**Imposed**  
Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Shimon Peres was quoted as saying today that the 1978 Israeli-Egyptian Camp David peace accords could not be imposed upon Palestinians because they were not a party to the pact.

Israel Radio quoted Peres as also telling a visiting council of European parliamentarian delegation that the accords, which foresaw only limited autonomy for Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, could not be enforced against the will of parties.

## Prem Nazir is dead

(Continued from Page 1)

1951 at the age of 21, making his debut in a film entitled "Marumakal" (The Daughter-in-law) with actress Komalam. He had acted opposite 85 actresses, some of them top names in Kerala. He also holds a record for playing the lead with a single actress, Sheela, in 107 films.

He was awarded the Padma Bhushan by the President of India for his contribution to art and cinema.

He joined the Congress (I) Party in 1986 and was hoping to stand for next general elections. He was the president of the film federation in Kerala.

His son, Shahnawaz, acts in Tamil and Malayalam films.

**ARCHICENTRE** disclose their intention in inviting contractors to participate in the tender of the headquarters building's project for Kuwait Cement Company. The invitations will be extended to those contractors who are willing and qualified to participate in this tender as per the following:

- Contractors can purchase the tender documents from Archicentre Main Office at Anwar Al Sabah New Complex (Fahd Al Salem Street) Block 2A, 2nd Floor (Tel: 2414191-9 i.e nine lines) against a payment of KD200/- as of January 18, 1989 up to January 26, 1989.
- Contractors should submit their tenders within (40) days from the above-mentioned closing date (26.1.1989).
- The project is located in Murgab area — Al Haka roundabout
- The project consists of an eight storey building, in addition to a ground floor, mezzanine and basement.

The total area of the project is around 6850m<sup>2</sup>.





Aquino welcomes Valentina Tereshkova (left), head of a four-member Soviet legislative delegation, during a courtesy call at the presidential palace. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Kremlin team meets Aquino

## Soviets want end to US bases

MANILA, Jan 16, (AP): Visiting Soviet officials said Moscow would like to see US military bases in the Philippines closed by the end of the century, said a Filipino Senator who met with the delegation today.

"They repeated that by the year 2000, they would like to see all foreign troops in foreign countries to go back to their native land," Sen. Leticia Ramos-Shahani told reporters after the meeting.

Ramos-Shahani, chairwoman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was among a group of Senators who met with the Soviet delegation, which arrived on Saturday for a seven-day visit. Earlier, the Soviet group, led by former cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova, paid a courtesy call on President Corason Aquino.

The United States maintains six bases here, including Clark Air Base and the Subic Bay Naval Base. The lease agreement on installations expires in 1991, and Aquino refuses to say

whether she will support an extension.

After meeting with the Soviet delegation, Aquino said she would like to see relations between the two countries improved.

"I told them how very pleased I was that we have more of these personal contacts," Aquino told reporters after the 40-minute meeting. "I would like for more of these visits to take place as evidence of the improved relationship between our two countries."

Aquino said she told the delegation of a planned visit to the Soviet Union by Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus "probably in April." She added that she also wanted Trade and Industry Secretary Jose Concepcion to visit Moscow to identify possible export products.

Tereshkova, chairman of the Soviet Friendship Society and member of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, said through an inter-

preter that her delegation reiterated an offer from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev for Aquino to visit the Soviet Union.

"We consider as very important the visit by President Aquino to the Soviet Union and we consider such a visit an important element in the development of political dialogue between our two countries," she said.

Tereshkova became the first woman in space in 1963 when her Vostok 6 completed 48 orbits of Earth.

Filipino legislators arranged the weeklong trip, which followed last month's 24-hour visit to this former US colony by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Meanwhile, the Philippine civil liberties union asked the Supreme Court today to avoid last year's agreement extending leases on US military bases, claiming the pact violates this Asian nation's constitution.

## First encounter to ease tension since war

## Koreans to hold top-level talks

SEOUL, Jan 16 (AP): North Korea agreed today to rival South Korea's proposal to hold the highest-ranking political and military talks on easing their tense relations since the Korean War.

North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyung-Muk, in a letter to his South Korean counterpart, Kang Young-Hoon, agreed to the South's proposal that they should head their respective delegations at the talks to be held alternatively in the two capitals.

### US

"The North and South must ease the tension, remove the danger of war and provide a reliable pre-condition for peaceful reunification as soon as possible," Yon said in a letter delivered at the Panmunjom truce site.

Yon proposed a meeting at Panmunjom on Feb 8, headed by vice-ministers to work out terms for full-scale talks. No date was mentioned for the main talks, and the two sides are expected to face problems on agreeing on terms.

Yon repeated the North's demand for separate three-way

talks with South Korea and the United States on reducing tension on the divided peninsula. He also demanded an end to the annual South Korea-US "Team Spirit" military exercises.

"It is obvious to everyone that the North and South cannot fundamentally resolve the question of peace by setting aside the United States, which is the party responsible for the aggravation of tension," the letter said.

South Korea and the United States have rejected the North's demands for separate talks involving the United States, on the grounds that negotiations should be between the two Koreas. About 42,000 US troops are based in the South under a mutual defence treaty against the North.

South Korea agreed last month to the North's initial call for high-level political and military talks on reducing tension. Seoul also proposed the prime ministers head the delegations to make the talks the highest since the Korean War.

While agreeing to upgrade talks to the prime ministerial level, the North's letter rejected

the South's proposal for separate economic and Red Cross humanitarian talks. It said economic issues could be resolved once the political issues were resolved, and that Red Cross talks were outside any official control.

Both sides in recent months have launched their own diplomatic initiatives to ease tension, and have tried to cast doubt on each other's desire for peace. The two sides have held periodic talks over the past 20 years, but have failed to improve relations.

### Exercises

Annual US-South Korean military exercises will continue as long as the Seoul government wants them, despite protests from North Korea, a US Senator said today.

"If the Republic of (South) Korea wants to change them, we will discuss it, but they have not wanted a change, Senator Richard Lugar told reporters before leaving Seoul.

Lugar, ending a three-day visit on the last leg of a five-nation Asian tour that also took him to the Philippines, Thailand,

Malaysia and Singapore, said the annual exercises, named "Team Spirit", served as a deterrent to a possible North Korean invasion.

The joint military training exercises have been conducted in various parts of South Korea since 1976.

Communist North Korea has objected to the exercises and has threatened to suspend all dialogue with South Korea unless they are stopped. This year's exercises are expected to begin late next month and continue until mid-April.

"Team Spirit is purely defensive, and invitations have been extended every year for North Korea and China to observe it," Lugar said. "And North Korea also conducts naval exercises with the Soviet Union."

Lugar, senior Republican member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said the United States has no plan to reduce its military presence in South Korea unless the Seoul government wants it to. About 42,000 troops currently are stationed in South Korea under a 1954 defence treaty.

## Thousands of Muslims congregate near Dhaka

DHAKA, Jan 16, (Reuter): Nearly one million devotees from around the world prayed and embraced at one of the world's biggest Muslim congregations near Dhaka today.

Officials said some 1,500 foreigners were among the thousands who travelled to the banks of the Turag River for congregation, called Biswa Jitema.

Official BSS news agency said pilgrims from Kuwait, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, India, the United States and European and African countries joined the congregation, which ended today after a final prayer.

This is the biggest Islamic congregation after haj, the annual pilgrimage to Makkah, Saudi Arabia, organisers said.

Women are not allowed to join the congregation, held every year. Organisers said the ban against women was because of a lack of adequate facilities. Women are allowed to listen to the discussions over loud-speakers from a distance.

### Cold

Most of the devotees were old, frail and poorly clad but they braved some of the coldest temperatures in 20 years for the pilgrimage.

Thousands of policemen struggled to keep order and help traffic pass smoothly as the pilgrims began returning home this afternoon, witnesses said.

"It's just a mess and no law seems to work here," said police officer Abdul Bari, pointing at crowds of pilgrims and vehicles choking roads.

But he said beeping up precautions helped avoid a major accident during this year's pilgrimage.

More than a dozen people were killed and over 100 injured in stampedes and road accidents during the Jitema last year, according to officials.

## Early age marriages on the rise in China

BEIJING, Jan 16, (UPI): In an alarming return to an outlawed ancient custom, large numbers of children in rural areas of east China are being betrothed for marriages arranged by their parents as early as seven or eight, an official newspaper said today.

The overseas edition of the People's Daily, the Communist Party newspaper, said arranged child marriages have come back into vogue in the "Golden Delta" area, comprising the cities of Shanghai, Nanjing and Hangzhou along the country's east coast.

In one city in the region, the newspaper said, more than 40 per cent of the children are already engaged. In another, 86 per cent of the youngsters under 14 are engaged, with the average betrothal age at seven or eight years old, it said.

The legal marriage age in China is 20 for women and 22 for men, but the government encourages people to marry late as part of its birth control policy. Many wait until they are 27 or 28.

Tradition Child betrothals arranged by parents through matchmakers were an age-old Chinese tradition before the communist revolution in 1949, after which they were technically outlawed. But the majority of marriages in the country have long been in some way arranged.

The government had tried to stamp out traditional practices of "bride prices" and huge dowries, but those have resurged with the new prosperity under China's market-oriented economic reforms since 1978. The "Golden Delta" is one of the country's richest regions.



## Marcos back in hospital

HONOLULU, Jan 16, (Reuter): Deposed Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos was taken to a Honolulu hospital last night with suspected pneumonia, a hospital spokeswoman said.

His admittance to St Francis Medical Centre, his third in five weeks, comes just four days before a New York judge is due to decide whether the 71-year-old former ruler is fit to stand trial on charges of stealing \$103 million from the Philippine treasury and fraudulently borrowing \$165 million from New York banks to buy property.

Marcos will stay in hospital for at least two days, the spokeswoman said.

Marcos was diagnosed on his two previous visits to the hospital as having congestive heart failure, or a weak heart muscle. He maintains he is too ill to make the 10-hour flight to New York to stand trial.

## Lebanese militias trade sporadic fire

## Shiite foes bury their dead

BEIRUT, Jan 16, (Reuter): Shiite foes traded sporadic rocket and machinegun fire today in the southern suburbs of Beirut where thousands of Hezbollah members gathered for a mass funeral of fighters killed in south Lebanon.

In the south the Red Cross said it was awaiting word from the pro-Syrian Amal militia and the Iranian-backed Hezbollah on whether they could carry out a new evacuation of bodies from the battered hilltop town of Jubah.

"Our next move depends on the talks between Amal and Hezbollah. If they allow us to enter we will do so, or else we have to wait," a Red Cross spokesman said.

In Kfar Fila, the nearest village to Jubah, Amal militiamen in fatigues and raincoats huddled around fires in their trenches facing Hezbollah positions in Jubah.

Amal and Hezbollah are rivals for the leadership of Lebanon's 1.5 million Shiites. More than two weeks of fighting between them has killed 136 people, wounded 150 and displaced thousands in the south.

Red Cross teams, working in pouring rain after an agreement by the two sides and civil defence officials, brought 20 bodies out of Jubah on Sunday — 11 Amal and nine Hezbollah fighters.

Only about 500 of Jubah's 6,000 residents were estimated to

have remained in the town.

It lies between the port of Sidon and Israel's self-declared security zone in an area used by Hezbollah to launch attacks against Israeli forces and their local allies.

In south Beirut, thousands of Hezbollah supporters gathered for a mass funeral of the dead taken out of Jubah.

Amal supporters, holding a smaller funeral procession in the southern part of Tyre for three of its fighters, vowed vengeance and denounced Iran for its support of Hezbollah.

Battles between the rival groups eased off over the past three days while Shiite religious leaders tried to stop the bloodshed.

## Pakistan interfering in Afghanistan: Shevardnadze

ISLAMABAD, Jan 16, (AP): Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze accused Pakistan of interfering in Afghanistan and said it could instead play a major role in restoring peace, the official Afghan news agency Bakhtar reported.

Shevardnadze, in an interview with Bakhtar before his departure from Kabul after a three-day visit, said the fulfilment of the Geneva accords signed last April depended on Pakistan's new government.

"Some people in Pakistan continue behaving themselves as if there are no provisions on ending interference from its territory in Afghan domestic affairs," Shevardnadze was quoted as saying in the report monitored in Islamabad today.

Pakistan is host to five million war refugees and an alliance of seven Muslim guerrilla parties fighting the Soviet-backed Kabul government.

### Peace

Shevardnadze said Pakistan, whose leadership changed from military to civilian rule after elections last November, "can do much to restore a peaceful and non-aligned Afghanistan."

Kabul has sent nearly 180 notices of Pakistan's alleged contraventions of the accords to the United Nations good offices mission for Afghanistan and Pakistan, all of which have been rejected by Islamabad.

The minister, on a previously unannounced visit, reiterated Moscow's support for the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. The Soviet Union sent troops to the country in December 1979 to bolster the Kabul government.

It withdrew half of its 100,000-man force last year and under the accords mediated by the United Nations, all troops are to be out of Afghanistan by Feb 15.

### Doubts

Yesterday the commander of Soviet troops in Afghanistan Boris Gromov, appeared to dispel remaining doubts whether Moscow would stick to the deadline.

"It is a delicate question which worries everybody in the world and of course worries us," Gromov said in an interview broadcast on Soviet television.

"But by Feb 15, the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan will be completed

entirely," he said.

In the Bakhtar interview, Shevardnadze said the Soviet Union was obliged to help the Afghan economy after withdrawal.

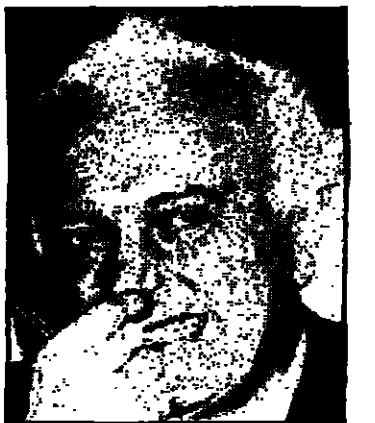
"We shall render our humane aid with supplies of foodstuffs, petroproducts and consumer goods both on a bilateral basis and through the UN," Shevardnadze said.

"The return of peace will open broad opportunities for further Soviet aid in building dozens of economic projects in the country," he said.

A Soviet mission to establish a broadly-based government in Kabul after withdrawal appeared to have foundered last week when Muslim guerrilla leaders called off further talks with Moscow.

Unit Meanwhile, the leader of the Afghan mujahideen yesterday stressed the need for a united rebel alliance with a single leadership in order to avoid bloodshed when Soviet troops complete their withdrawal from Afghanistan next month.

Sibghatullah Mojaddidi, attending a two-day seminar in



### Shevardnadze

Tehran, said that "before the Russians leave, our organisation should form a government with a single leadership in order to avoid bloodshed later," the Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

Mojaddidi said that the fall of the Soviet-backed Kabul government would automatically follow after the Soviets withdraw their troops from Afghanistan, but warned that the mujahideen must be able to fill that vacuum or face possible bloodshed, IRNA said.

In an interview with IRNA, Mojaddidi said that the mujahideen, as the anti-government forces are known, were working hard to resolve differences and reach common agreement on the future government of Afghanistan.

## Akihito to get \$2m salary

TOKYO, Jan 16, (AP): New Emperor Akihito will receive the same 257-million-yen (\$2-million) tax-free annual salary from the government as his father, former Emperor Hirohito, a Finance Ministry official says.

In addition, 2.5 billion yen (\$20 million) will be provided this year for the emperor's normal court expenses. This will be augmented during the coming months by a special 2.6 billion yen (\$21 million) for a portion of the funeral costs for Hirohito, who died on Jan 7, the official said.

The government decided last Tuesday to pay a total of 9.3 billion yen (\$74 million) for the late emperor's Feb 24 funeral.

Akihito's salary will cover the living expenses of his six-member family, while Hirohito's went only to his wife, Nagako, and himself, an Imperial Household Agency official said.

In addition, 15 other members of the extended imperial family receive a total of 217 million yen (\$1.7 million) per year, the official said.

## US urged to confiscate assets of Union Carbide

BHOPAL, Jan 16, (Reuter): Poets from more than a dozen countries have asked the US government to confiscate the assets of the Union Carbide Corp to provide compensation for the victims of the Bhopal gas disaster.

Organisers of an international poetry festival in Bhopal said today that 23 poets signed a letter making the demand.

More than 3,300 people have died from the 1984 Bhopal disaster in which poisonous gas spewed from a Union Carbide pesticide plant.

The poets said in a letter to the White House that confiscation of Connecticut-based Union Carbide's assets would ensure speedy compensation for the victims of the world's worst industrial accident.

An Indian government suit seeking \$3 billion in compensation from Union Carbide has resulted so far only in an order for \$290 million in interim compensation, against which Union Carbide is appealing.

The festival organisers said that among the signatories were Stephen Spender of Britain, Judith Rodriguez of Australia, Henrik Norbrandt of Denmark, Ghana's Kofi Awoonor and Gabriel Okara of Nigeria.

## Origin of human language may lie in Africa

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan 16, (AP): A controversial researcher speculates that the human capacity for language may come from a genetic mutation that occurred in a woman who lived in Africa about 200,000 years ago.

Her descendants went on to colonise Europe and Asia, perhaps aided by an ability to speak that had not yet appeared in humans in those areas, said Allan C. Wilson, a biochemist at the University of California.

Wilson's conjectures are based on exhaustive comparisons of genetic material from people around the world.

Two years ago, Wilson attracted the interest of scientists and the public when he concluded that all humans are descendants of a woman in Africa.

Wilson said the woman was not the only female alive at the time, but that the descendants of others did not survive.

In a talk at the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Wilson said new evidence, including comparisons of human genetic materials with that of chimpanzees and apes, strongly confirm that finding.

That assertion was strongly criticised by some anthropologists, including Milford Wolpoff of the University of Michigan.

## Sino-Vietnam talks on Kampuchea begin

BEIJING, Jan 16, (Reuter): China and Vietnam, which fought a border war in 1979, started talking again today after nine years of hostile silence with the future of Kampuchea at stake.

China confirmed for the first time that Vietnam's first Deputy Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem had arrived in Beijing on Saturday "for private consultations on a political settlement to the Kampuchean question."

Informed Vietnamese sources in Hanoi said Liem would prepare for a milestone trip to China by Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, probably within the next two months.

### Pull out

"These are just preliminary contacts," an East European source in Beijing said of Liem's visit.

Diplomats in Beijing said they expected the discussions would include a timetable for withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Kampuchea to be matched by an end to China's military aid to the Khmer Rouge who were driven out by the Vietnamese invasion

who said evidence from fossils "clearly and unambiguously contradicts" it.

To buttress his theory, Wilson puzzled over what might have caused early humans in Asia and Europe to have died out, leaving no descendants today.

He then became aware of research by Luigi Luca Cavalli-Sforza and colleagues at Stanford University that suggested that language emerged about the same time as modern humans evolved in Africa.

That led to the suggestion that the proto-human and her African descendants could speak, and their counterparts in Asia and Europe could not.

"It's likely they (the Europeans and Asians) could hear and make sounds, but they didn't have modern language," Wilson said.

But why didn't the Africans, who colonised Europe and Asia, mate with Europeans and Asians, producing offspring who could speak and who would have continued the European and Asian line of descendants until today?

Wilson proposed that the mutation that somehow made language possible arose in a kind of genetic material called mitochondrial DNA that is passed on only by mothers.

## Mousavi off to Europe

ROME, Jan 16, (UPI): Prime Minister Mir Hossein Mousavi of Iran, making his first official visit to Western Europe, arrived today for talks with Italian leaders on developments in the Gulf and economic relations.

Mousavi was scheduled to meet with Italian President Francesco Cossiga, Prime Minister Ciriaco De Mita, Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti and Pope John Paul II during his stay in Rome lasting just only 27 hours.

The prime minister flew from Tehran with a large group of aides in an Iranian Air Force Boeing 707 jet. Three helicopters took the party from Ciampino military airport to the Villa Doria Pamphili.

"The visit reflects the good state of relations between the two countries and the common will to further improve and develop

them," the Chigi Palace, De Mita's office, said.

The statement said De Mita will discuss efforts to maintain the ceasefire between Iran and Iraq in the Gulf, political developments in Afghanistan, the results of the conference in Paris on banning chemical weapons and economic relations between Tehran and Rome.

Although Italy sent a naval fleet to the Gulf in 1987 to protect Italian merchant ships, it strongly backed efforts by the United Nations to end the Gulf war.

Italy, which is Iran's third largest trading partner with a 1987 exchange of more than \$1.5 billion, imported some 7 million tons of Iranian oil in 1987.

The oil imports accounted for 80 per cent of Italian purchases from Iran, giving Tehran a favourable balance of more than \$500 million.

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## Anti-brucellosis project under evaluation

KUWAIT, Jan 16, (KUNA): An expert at the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has said that Kuwait is the first country in the world to carry out an organised programme of vaccination against brucellosis, which attacks cattle and humans.

Professor Paul Nicolle of the University of Florida and consultant of the Kuwait Anti-Brucellosis Project told KUNA that the results of the vaccination project in Kuwait will be used by other countries as an example.

### Efforts

He hailed efforts made by officials in this sector in Kuwait which has helped reduce the percentage of this disease among people and cattle in the last two years.

Nicolle added that vets working in Kuwait are among the best in the field of cattle immunisation.

He last visited Kuwait in 1985 at the invitation of the government of Kuwait to fight 1168 cases of brucellosis among people.

### Warning

The expert said that brucellosis mainly causes abortions and sterility among women and warned people not to drink non-pasteurised milk since it is the main cause of the disease. He further added that the aim of his present visit is to revise results of immunisation that began in September 1987.

Meanwhile, the director of the Animal Health Department Dr Sultan Ahmed Sultan has said that the public authority for agriculture affairs and fish resources is currently evaluating the first phase of the project on combating brucellosis in cattle.

Dr Sultan said in an interview that his department has achieved



Dr Paul Nicolle ... expert

important feats in this respect and will continue with the remaining phases to reduce brucellosis infection in humans and animals alike.

He indicated that the authority benefited from the services of Dr Paul Nicolle of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), who conducted an epidemiological study on the disease among cows and provided his proposals on the best ways to contain brucellosis.

### Complicated

Sultan stressed that fighting brucellosis is a complicated matter and requires time, effort and co-operation by cattle breeders. Sultan said that the authority carried out all recommendations of the FAO official, citing that over 360,000 heads of sheep and goats were vaccinated in a span of 15 months.

He said that the system of diluting the brucellosis vaccines, which Nicolle recommended, grants longer protection against the disease, without causing any side effects.

## Call for establishment of Arab fund to combat locusts

# Arab ministers begin talks on food security

DAMASCUS, Jan 16, (Reuters): Arab agriculture ministers met in the Syrian capital today to discuss ways of reducing dependence on imported food and the locusts threat.

Hassan Fahmi Juma'a, director-general of the Arab Organisation for Agriculture and Development (AOAD), said the most serious problem facing the Arab nation was failure to achieve food self-sufficiency. A study distributed at the meeting said Arab countries could feed themselves if resources were used properly.

### Investment

Syrian Prime Minister Mahmoud Zu'bi, speaking at the opening ceremony, called for more investment in agriculture, saying Arabs were sending their money abroad instead of providing the capital needed for self-sufficiency in food.

The AOAD released figures showing that Arab countries, with a total population estimated at 193.4 million in 1985, were falling behind in food production.

### Production

It said cereal production rose just 1.4 per cent from 1979 to 1985 while the figure for the rest of the Third World was 3.45 per cent.

Arab wheat production in 1985 met only 42 per cent of local demand, compared with 90 per cent in 1972, the organisation said.

Juma'a also called for the establishment of an Arab fund to combat locusts and counter the

consequences of floods.

"The invasion of locusts will pose a destructive threat to Arab countries in coming years if no joint Arab action is adopted," Juma'a said.

Locusts have invaded Jordan and some Gulf states since spreading from Africa where they caused widespread devastation of crops last year.

### Locust threat

Meanwhile, the chairman of the board and director-general of the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources Sheikh Ibrahim Al Duaij has said that the swarms of locusts that invaded Kuwait recently have been fully brought under control.

He said that the change in the wind direction contributed to official efforts to drive the pests away, and that larger-size swarms of locusts were expected to invade Kuwait late February.

### Combat efforts

Duaij told a local newspaper that the Jeddah-based FAO regional bureau has alerted Kuwait to expect huge swarms of invading locusts coming from outside the region, which made chances of successful combat efforts difficult to rate.

He revealed that massive preparations were underway at the authority in anticipation of the locusts, adding that the chances of swarms invading Kuwait would remain up to the month of May, due to the gradual warming up of climatic conditions.

Duaij pointed out that the authority was in constant con-

tact with relevant authorities in Saudi Arabia, and Iraq for co-ordination in the anti-locust campaign.

He said that two agricultural pilot plants would be inaugurated on the occasion of the country's National Day at Wafra and Abdali, each employing different irrigation techniques.

Duaij further added that the authority was currently involved in the preparation of a 19-month long study in co-operation with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research to develop a medium and a long-term plan for landscaping Kuwait.

The authority was expecting to receive a similar vital study on a national strategy for fish resources over the next twenty years, which would establish various fish development techniques, volume and suitability of Kuwaiti waters, fishing methods and existing numbers of fish.

The authority has also commenced the construction of 14 designated gardens, nine of which would be let in public tenders during the first half of this year.

Duaij said that there were three regional parks located in Jahra, Abu Halifa and Bayan, and that upon the completion of related studies, public tenders would be invited for the construction of these parks early next year.

He also voiced the authority's intention to provide the Jahra-Abdali and Jahra-Salmi highways with trees.

## KPTC will not increase normal ticket fares

By Lima Al Khalafawi

THE Kuwait Public Transport Company (KPTC) will not increase normal fares, but season ticket prices will increase, according to Abdul Wahab Al Haroon, chairman and managing director of the company.

He told the Arab Times that a field study carried out by the company revealed that 75 per cent of passengers travel on the company's buses more than four times a day, 20 per cent travel exactly four times a day and the rest twice a day.

He said commuters who possess a monthly season ticket and travel more than three times a day are given a 50 per cent discount. He explained that the monthly ticket should actually cost KD12, as the bus fare is 400 fils for travelling four times a day (100 fils per ride).

The actual cost of the season ticket is KD9, therefore, with a 50 per cent discount the price is lowered to KD4.500.

The price of the season ticket has increased by one third of the original price thereby rising from KD4.500 to KD6.

The official added that even after the increase, subscribers are still enjoying a discount from the original cost.

KPTC also provides transport

services to ministries including the Ministries of Information, Foreign Affairs, Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and DGCA.

Haroon claimed that since

1982 the company shows an

annual profit and does not

depend on the government sub-

sidy.

## KD2.25 million expected in departure fees

KUWAIT, Jan 16, (KUNA): Nearly KD2.25 million in departure fees is estimated to be received annually by the state from the expected 1.5 million passengers leaving via the airport, according to the State Minister for Services Affairs Essa Mohammed Al Mazidi.

He further said that the KD2 fee, which will be applicable from April 1, conforms with the principle of effective contribution by air travellers in return for the multi-million dinar services provided by the state.

Speaking of the law, approved by the cabinet Sunday, Mazidi said that all passengers travelling aboard any airline or private jet must pay the fee.

He further added that official state guests, bearers of diplomatic passports, accredited diplomats to Kuwait, children under 12, transit passengers and those deported by the authorities are exempt from the fee.

## 20 Kuwaiti factories to relocate

THE Ministry of Commerce and Industry is finalising an inventory list of stagnant local industries for relocation to Egypt, according to sources close to the ministry.

The list includes 20 factories, four of which are currently closed.

Sources said that this measure was targeted at accommodating these passive industries with the right atmosphere for operation and better marketing chances. However, there are still obstacles to be eliminated before this measure could successfully be carried out.

He added that feasibility studies were currently under way to establish the percentage of success expected of each factory, given the current market situation in Egypt. Egyptian partners will also be selected from the private sector to work out the details.

The official disclosed that the owners of these factories will have to settle their financial commitment with local banks as a final measure before their factories could be relocated.

## Roudhan inaugurates short story seminar

KUWAIT, Jan 16, (KUNA): Housing Minister, Nasser Al Roudhan inaugurated here today the first Gulf literary gathering on the Art of the Short Story in the GCC states.

Roudhan, acting Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs said the literary seminar emphasises the concern of GCC cultural officials with the Art of the Short Story and their keenness on the success of the event. A number of distinguished Arab writers and critics are taking part.

Secretary-General of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters Dr Farouq Al Omar said the seminar on the short story in the GCC states was part of a programme endorsed by GCC culture ministers.

## BAHRAIN DIGEST

## British aim to provide water technology to Bahrain

BRITISH expertise and technology can contribute towards helping Bahrain increase its drinking water supply considerably, according to the head of a leading British trade mission, which has just visited the island.

Roger Parker, mission leader of Bristol Chamber of Commerce and Industry delegation, told the Arab Times in an interview that Bahrain is blessed with abundant supply of good quality water that can be easily desalinated for consumption.

"Bahrain is fortunate that it is an island surrounded by ample water, unlike other Gulf states. It has infinite supply of fresh water that could be used for drinking. The water here also contains very low salinity. We feel that British technology and professionals are among the best in water technology in the world and can help Bahrain to further increase its water supply."

He cited Watson and John Taylor as two internationally recognised consultants in water technology from Britain whose services may be used in boosting water supply in Bahrain.

Parker emphasised that the British could in particular help launch a massive monitoring operation of the waters around the causeway.

"We feel we could contribute a lot to monitor the water around the causeway by assessing its chemical components and other factors. We can contain the harmful components and make the water better. This is an area we are looking at."

The mission head, who is also the managing director of Partech Electronics Ltd, said the 13-member mission has had a successful tour, reflecting a lot of enthusiasm among both the British representatives and the local traders and proved to be much better than the last tour ten months ago. He added the tour was conducted in the spirit of optimism and general goodwill.

Parker said the mission received more enquiries than the last tour and stated there are good expectations of business from the two-day trip.

"We have not had any major contracts yet, but received some small ones based on high quality technology. We hope to receive good feedback in the next nine months from this visit," said Parker.

He added that the Bahraini market is very active and attracts considerable modern technology. The prospects of international investments in the island are excellent in view of the ceasefire in the Gulf war and growing regional and international confidence in the trade.

During their short stay in Bahrain the mission members met officials of the Chamber of Commerce and various technical directorates of the Ministry of Works, Power and Water.

Jim Crandison, a member of the mission representing Stoddards Carpets Ltd, highlighted British contribution towards Bahrain's construction industry with particular reference to interior decoration. He said his company already commissioned major carpeting works for such vital projects as the Grand Mosque and the Muharrag mosque.

According to Mrs Bayl Kate, mission manager and assistant executive director of Bristol Chamber of Commerce, Bristol is one of the fastest growing regions in England which is becoming an important commercial centre. The area is attracting increasing hi-technology to boost both domestic and international trade in Britain.

She said a large number of sub-contractors operate in the region, which is also the centre of British Aerospace and Airbus.

Bristol enjoys a very high quality of life compared to other areas in Britain, with the lowest unemployment figure against national averages. He added that the Bristol Chamber of Commerce works in close collaboration with the local Chamber of Commerce in London.

The Bristol Chamber of Commerce delegation ended its tour of Bahrain Sunday - the 13th visit organised by the chamber over 12 years.

The mission continues its Gulf tour to Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

## Anglican minister to arrive soon

THE Rt. Reverend John Brown, spiritual leader to the Anglicans of the Gulf and Cyprus, will make his first pastoral visit to Bahrain this year at the end of this month.

The bishop will deliver a sermon of evensong at 6 pm on Sunday January 29, at St Christopher's Cathedral.

During his stay Bishop Brown will confer with the island's Anglican church leaders. Consecrated bishop three years ago, the English prelate is considered a scholar of both the Arabic culture and Islam. He was catapulted onto the international scene last summer when the Most Rev. Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury, appointed him envoy to Lebanon to explore the possibilities with religious leaders in that country of a denouement.

## GDR welcomes direct Iraq-Iran negotiations

BAGHDAD, Jan 16, (KUNA):

Deputy Chairman of East Germany's Council of State Gerald Gouteng left here last night after a week-long official visit to Iraq.

The German official was seen off at the airport by Iraqi Vice President Taha Muheideen Marouf, Iraqi News Agency reported.

Upon his departure Gouteng was quoted as saying that he felt Iraq's will to reach a permanent peace in the Gulf region.

INA quoted Gouteng as saying that East Germany and Iraq held identical views on the issue of a peaceful settlement to the Iraqi-Iranian conflict based on the United Nations Security Council Resolution 598. He added that Germany welcomes direct negotiations between Iraq and Iran to implement articles of the UN resolution.

Gouteng said that his talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had special significance, adding that he conveyed to President Saddam a message from chairman of the Council of State Erich Honecker.

The German official stressed his country's support to the Palestinian people's struggle to restore their national rights.

Gouteng praised the peace initiative of Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman Yasser Arafat in Geneva last month, noting that talks following that initiative between the US and the PLO might be beneficial for peace in the Middle East.

East Germany recognises the independent Palestinian state, Gouteng said, an indication of his country's friendly relations with the PLO.

## Interior Ministry to computerise fingerprints

THE General Criminal Evidence

Department has obtained fingerprints of all residents except a small group, who are considered violators, according to Colonel Saud Al Barjis, acting general director of the department.

He said that the number of people currently finger-printed by the department is 1,479,778 and that the Ministry of Interior has completed a study for using computers to store the prints.

The study will be implemented during the next few months. Computers will speed up measures and procedures remarkably because they have a memory capacity of 20 million

fingerprints. The memory can be expanded in the future.

The second Criminal Evidence Department heads conference, which was held in Tunis, approved of a number of proposals concerning accurate, technical and scientific examination of crime scenes and their effects on criminal evidence. The conference also discussed issues on the development of criminal laboratories and censorship.

Barjis said that the department's laboratories have currently entered a new era and a number of advanced equipment in use for crime detection.

## Kuwait, UNDP sign accord on technical co-operation

By Lima Al Khalafawi

AN agreement regulating all technical co-operation programmes was signed between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Kuwaiti government, according to Dr Mohammed Abdullah Nour, assistant administrator and regional director of the bureau for Arab states and European programmes of the UNDP.

The main objectives of the agreement to clarify and codify the work within the framework of development co-operation, especially since Kuwait is a major contributor.

Nour added that the current programme in Kuwait covers agriculture, planning, statistics, fisheries and irrigation and costs about \$4.5 million.

Nour, who left Kuwait on Sunday after his three day visit, told the Arab Times that during his visit he also obtained the Kuwaiti government's approval for appointing a new UNDP representative, Ali Badawi. The position in Kuwait has been



Dr Mohammed Abdullah Nour

vacant for the last six months. Nour discussed different topics, regarding jointly implemented topics on a cost-sharing basis, with the Director-General and Chairman of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), Abdul Latif Al Hamad.

He disclosed that one of these projects was the development of a regional programme on software centres. It is stationed in Kuwait, for education and in

Egypt for information. The project, to start soon, will serve all Arab countries and will cost approximately \$5 to six million.

The improvement of the production of date-bearing palm trees in the Arab world, through the use of high technology methods especially tissue culture, was also discussed with Hamad. The first stage of such a project will cost \$3 million.

The official discussed the noble gesture of HH the Amir on the subject of the settlement of debts of the Third World countries with Sulaiman Al Shaheen, the foreign undersecretary. He said that the Arab bureau will be studying the Amir's proposal extensively, and will add various suggestions, particularly in the areas of restructuring and the impact of debts on social development.

The debt includes thousands of billions of dollars and donor countries should help the indebted keep their economies in good shape to enable eventual repayment. However, no immediate solution is available, the official said.

## Unfavourable reaction to new labour law

THE new labour law signed recently by the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour which reorganises labour in the private sector has created several reactions among the public.

A local daily concluded a poll on citizens, workers and businessmen alike, in order to highlight and monitor opinions of the people concerned. Some businessmen appreciated the order, some described it as ambiguous and others welcomed it.

Three-year contracts, transfer of residence regulations and the ban on part-time work were all considered a problem to the labour force.

Othman Al Nasrallah, manager of a private company, complained that the new regulations will restrict business movement and added that the obligation of an employer to sponsor the employee for three years with no transferable residence will prejudice against the employee if the employer wishes to dismiss him prior to the expiry of the residence.

He criticised the fact that authorised signatures of the company should belong to a GCC citizen as this issue should be handled by the company's owner and he should reserve the right to authorise anyone on behalf of his company.

Bader Al Asfour, an employer, agreed with the latter on the matter of prejudice and residences. He clarified that this issue should be left to firm owners as some employers may need part-time workers only, and should be allowed to employ such.

He also disagreed with articles concerning the appointment of Kuwaitis and GCC citizens due to the lack of practical application within the Gulf countries since most GCC citizens preferred administrative work to

technical. In addition, wages of Kuwaitis and GCC nationals will be much higher than that of expatriates.

Abdulla Al Sarraf was against the prohibition of importing labour if the state can provide it. He said that this will cause inconvenience and will eventually force the employer to reject all workers offered by the ministry until permission to import is awarded.

Sarraf added that he has no objection to allowing an employee to work part-time after working hours, as long as his original work is not affected.

Shehadah Hassan, a worker, supported the re-organisation of work in the private sector, but featured the provision that bans transfer of residences. He hoped that the ministry will review this provision and substitute it with another which will provide psychological stability for employees.

Khaled Al Hamad, a citizen, said that the problem with any new law is the actual application. He hinted that some companies were suffering an inflation in work force.

Hussain Al Wat, citizen, supported the appointing of GCC citizens, in particular, but said that they required more time to gain the necessary experience.

Mahmoud Ahmed, a worker, said that GCC citizens lacked technical experience and thereby felt their appointment for such jobs was premature.

Hassan Khalajah, a worker, stated that the country's future is important to all residents but feels that the new provisions for transfer of residence will be unfair to those who have worked for the country for a long time and hopes the ministry will exclude it.

## US naval force trimmed again

WASHINGTON, Jan 16, (KUNA): The US naval force in the Arabian Gulf is being trimmed again, leaving the fleet with six surface fighting ships, the lowest number since the mid-1987 buildup that began as the Iran-Iraq war escalated. Pentagon officials confirmed here today.

As the missile cruiser USS Josephus Daniels and three missile frigates departed the Gulf in recent days, three newly arriving vessels entered the waterway to begin their three-month duty tours.

The three-for-four swap effectively reduced the Gulf-based fleet from 15 to 14 ships and pared the number of surface combatants - cruisers, destroyers, and frigates - from seven to six.

The total of 14 is the lowest number of American warships in the Gulf since July 1987. It also includes six minewepners, an amphibious landing ship that serves as their mother ship, and the USS La Salle, flagship of the Middle East Joint Task Force.

Another 10 ships, a battle group built around the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Nimitz, remains on station in the Arabian Sea. It is to be replaced by another carrier group, headed by the USS Constellation, at the end of the month.

## Traffic accidents

THE Ministry of Interior public relations office has reported 14 traffic accidents around Kuwait. Three traffic accidents were reported in the Capital, six in Alhamadi and five in Jahra.

Four men and one woman were reported injured and one man died after his car overturned.

Meanwhile, a 12-year-old Iraqi girl died after falling into an uncovered sewage manhole.



Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed greeting OIC secretary-general Hamid Al Ghabid.

## Sheikh Sabah receives OIC secretary-general

KUWAIT, Jan 16, (KUNA): Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed today received the secretary-general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference Dr Hamid Al Ghabid, currently in Kuwait on a three-day official visit.

In a statement to reporters, Sheikh Sabah said Kuwait in its capacity as head of the 5th OIC summit fully supports the organisation.

Sheikh Sabah added that talks with Dr Ghabid centred on the OIC situation, particularly the

quotas of the member states.

He also wished Ghabid all the best in his new mission which Sabah described as "not easy."

Sabah urged the OIC member countries to co-operate with Ghabid so that the organisation recovers its prominent role, particularly since the OIC will be celebrating its 20th anniversary in a few days.

Ghabid described his meeting with Sheikh Sabah as "cordial", adding that Kuwait was the first OIC country he has visited since he took over as secretary-general.

## Kuwait delegation leaves for UN environment meeting

KUWAIT, Jan 16, (KUNA): A Kuwaiti delegation, headed by Minister of Planning Dr Abdul Rahman Abdullah Al Awadi leaves here tomorrow for Nairobi to take part in the UN-sponsored ministerial meetings on environment and development to be held at the headquarters of the UN Programme for Environment from Jan 18-20.

Ministers and high-ranking officials representing different regions, will discuss environmental issues at the meeting, and will emphasise environmental concepts in a new strategy for international development.

Ways of dealing with environmental problems and their social, economic and political impact on national and international levels are also among the issues to be discussed.

The delegation groups Assistant Undersecretary for Technical Co-operation at the Planning Ministry Mariam Al Awadi, Deputy Director of the Environment Protection Department Mohammed Yusuf Abdul Rahim and the Director of the Minister's Bureau Mohammed Bilal.

He told a local daily, that the ministry will expand the Farwaniya telephone division by adding 10,000 new lines next May. It will also establish two new telephone centres in Qurain and Fintas, with a capacity of 20,000 telephone lines each.

He pointed out that most new subscribers in Farwaniya will get

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## IAC to hold drama competition

THE Indian Arts Circle, Kuwait, will organise a drama competition in the first half of May to encourage amateur theatre groups, according to an IAC spokesman.

He said the competition is being organised to make the Indian community theatre conscious and to "improve the standard of presentation."

All Indian amateur groups can enter the one-act play contest. The play can be performed in any Indian language. English-language dramas can also be entered in the contest, he said.

The maximum duration of the play must be 40 minutes. Awards will be given to the best actor, actress, director and stage manager. A rolling trophy will be given to the winner of the competition.

There are more than 13 amateur Indian groups. So far,

each group has been performing individually. The Bengali Cultural Society and the Keralites have been in the forefront among Indian groups in the field of amateur theatre. Others have begun staging plays in Tamil and Hindi. Now, the IAC wants to link the effort of all groups by inviting them to perform on the same stage. This is the first time that a collective effort is being made by the Indian community.

The IAC hopes to make drama contests an annual event as part of their expanding cultural programme. But this will depend on the response of this year's competition.

The last date for registering for the drama competition is Feb 28. For details contact IAC — 3904817 after 6.30 pm; Sharma — 2644863 or Raman — 3903879.



A scene from a Malayalee play. (File photo)

## Sailing club seeks members

THE one-year-old Laser Sailing Club has urged people to join their sailing club.

The club was formed in June last year and some of its members have left Kuwait. Now they want more people to join their club to promote the sport on a bigger scale. "We are interested in promoting laser sailing in Kuwait and want to encourage men and women to join in the adventure and fun," said David Clark, one of the founder-members of the club.

Clark says that small boat racing can provide lot of fun

even if you've not tried it before. "Most of us at the club are new to lasers. Getting in and out of tangles on the sea can be good fun and a great way to spend your weekend," he said.

Popular He believes it is one of the best sports in Kuwait that keep you occupied — and a good way to beat the heat in summer. "You can just turn over and jump for a swim in the sea if you're tired of sailing," said Clark.

The club offers "one class" racing without handicaps using

the laser boats, one of the world's most popular and widespread single-handed sailing boats. There are over 135,000 laser boats in use around the world, but there is a shortage of boats in Kuwait.

More members are also needed to expand the social and sporting activities of the club, which has a full racing programme, beginning on Feb 3. Members train throughout the year and participate in Gulf sailing events. (Please see what's on if you want to join the club).



## Arab arts show at museum

KUWAIT'S Minister of State for Municipal Affairs Mohammad Sayed Abdul Mohsin Al Rifai on Sunday opened a formative arts exhibition at the Kuwait National Museum. The works of Arab artists are on display. A large number of Arab diplomats and art enthusiasts attended the opening. The display is open during museum hours. Above: Al Rifai (left) with Minister for Public Works Abdul Rahman Al Houti (second right) and other guests after the opening. Below: visitors admiring some of the works on display.



● A beauty contest was one of the highlights of a Sri Lankan get-together and musical show held at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel on Sunday night. The United Art Circle, a music group, presented a varied selection of music from Sri Lanka. The lead vocalist was Nirmalee. Music was by the Lakshmi Band. Pictures show: (Above) Some of the young women who participated in the beauty contest, (below): a view of the audience.



● The management of Kuwait Meridian Hotel recently promoted six members of its staff. They are Nadia Ayad, director of sales; Adnan Saad, sales manager; Abed Rassan, new assistant food and beverage manager; Safwat Michael, assistant banquet manager; Khalid Zikry, financial controller and Josephine Menezes, assistant personnel manager, in charge of training. Picture above shows Andrea Mathmuller (centre, front row) with the recently promoted staff.

## WHAT'S ON

### ARTS

#### Kuwait Science Museum

DAILY: 3 pm onwards: natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Friday: 9 am onwards.

#### Islamic Arts Museum

SAT — Thurs: 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

#### Tareq Rajab Museum

SAT — Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

#### Sultan Gallery

ANN Eid: Photographs of Kuwait, on show at the gallery, Thuyayan Al Ghanem Bldg., Al Soor St. Open daily from

#### 5-8pm. Iwan Gallery

EXHIBITION of lithographs by three 19th century Orientalists. Open from 9 am to 1 pm, 5 to 9 pm, at the gallery located in Zahra Complex, Salamiya.

#### Ghadr Gallery

UNTIL JAN 24: Kuwaiti artist Awatif Al Shatty will display a selection of her latest paintings at the gallery. It will be open from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.30 pm.

#### Kuwait Society for Formative Arts

JAN 27 to Feb 9: The Kuwait Society for Formative Arts will hold the annual general exhibition, displaying art works by Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti plastic artists.

#### Kuwait Players

Kuwait Players present Alice in Wonderland, a musical fantasy directed by Carol Jelley. It will be performed at the Universal American School, Salwa. Performances are as follows: Jan 17 (7.30 pm) Gala night including buffet Jan 18 night and 25 (6.30 pm) family night, Jan 19/26: matinee (3 pm) and evening (7.30 pm). Jan 20: 3 pm,

#### 5.30 pm. Jan 23: 5.30 pm: Mad-

hatters Tea Party, followed by Alice in Wonderland. Jan 27: Final performance. Tickets — KD3 (adults) and KD2.500 (children). For reservations call 5726048, 5657749.

#### Funkar Arts Group

JAN 27, 5 pm: The Indian theatre group, Funkar Arts will present two one-act plays. Bus Stop, a comedy and Second Trap, a suspense drama will be performed at the IAC. A dance show will also be held.

#### MUSIC

##### Kuwait Singers

Rehearsals for the next Kuwait Singers concert will be held each Saturday and Monday from 7.30 pm at the Gulf English School. Past, current and new singers welcome. For details phone 3900922 or 5384873.

#### SOCIAL

##### Bharathi Kalai Mandram

JAN 20: IAC, Funaites. The Bharathi Kalai Mandram, a fine arts association of the Tamil-speaking community, will celebrate the Nehru centenary and Pongal, a harvest fes-

#### tival. A variety show featuring

classical dances, drama and music will be held. For entry passes call 5331561.

#### Kuwait Caledonians

FEB 2: The Caledonians will hold the Burns Night (Thursday) at the Messilah Beach Hotel. The guest from Scotland will be Jack Glenn. Tel: 5335082; 5332235; 3727691 ext. 253.

#### Kuwait Rondels

FEB 16: The Kuwait Rondels Grand Ball '89 will be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel. Tickets are now available. Tel: 5337597.

#### HOTELS

##### At the International

The Spanish extravaganza continues at the Failaka Restaurant with Ballet Espanol, presented by the Paco de Alba Trio. Spanish food is also featured. The Spanish gala with classical dances such as Flamenco will be held on Jan 19.

##### La Palma

La Palma is open for lunch and dinner from 12 noon to 3 pm. International cuisine including buffet featuring hors d'oeuvres buffet, hot buffet and desserts.

##### The Failaka Restaurant

#### features lunch and dinner. The

menu offers international cuisine. In the evenings, the all-ladies group from Poland, the Soft Trio, will entertain guests.

#### At Messilah Beach

MUBARAKIYAH Restaurant: open 24 hours, buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks. Sundays: Ladies Day; Mondays: birthday special; Fridays: special buffet "a go go."

#### At the Holiday Inn

Every Wednesday is "Sea Drama on Ice" in Al Dana. Thursday night is Indian night featuring exotic Eastern cuisine; and listen to the music played by the Gharibian Trio.

#### Enjoy Arabian Night in Al

Andalus Supper Club on Thursday nights.

#### Friday brunch — fun time

for families; games, prizes. Also open to Jaycee Club members.

#### At the Sheraton

RICCARDO'S: Italian cuisine prepared using home-made pasta; lunch and dinner, evening entertainment by the Sienna's Duo. Closed on Fridays.

#### Al Hamra: Sundays:

Lebanese cuisine; Tuesday's is Thai Night; Wednesday's: seafood night; musicians

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

### KTV 1

#### MORNING

9.00 Holy Quran  
9.10 Good Morning  
9.15 Cartoon serial  
9.45 World News via Satellite  
10.00 Imraa Fi Duwamah: Arabic serial; part 4. Starring: Aida Abdul Aziz, Salah Zulfikar, Tayseer Fahmi, Mohsin Serhan.  
10.50 News Summary/Good Morning  
11.00 Saghirat Al Hayat: local Arabic serial; part 4; starring Hayat Al Fahad, Zainab Al Dahi, Hind Kamel, Dawood Hussein, Mohammad Sayed

12.00 Variety Show  
1.00 News Summary  
1.05 Holy Quran/Closedown

#### EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran  
4.15 World News via Satellite  
4.45 Bambo: animated feature  
5.15 Tum Tek and Children  
5.30 We and Our Friends: presented by Wafa Taha  
6.00 Liqa Fi Al Zakira: "Ibn Zakr Al Saqeli," historical serial  
7.00 News Summary  
7.15 Agricultural Magazine  
7.45 Diwanayat Shuara Al Nabt: poetry session  
8.30 Good Evening  
9.00 News in Arabic  
9.50 Dawaar Al Zaman:



Jake and the Fatman, tonight at 10.30 pm on KTV 2.

ep. 14 of daily Arabic serial

10.45 Min Alf Ale Alaya: a weekly variety show presented by Tareq Habib. Tonight's guest is Arab artist Abdul Munim Madbouli

12.15 News Summary

12.20 World News via Satellite

12.50 Holy Quran/Closedown

10.10 Bustin' Loose: "The Baby." Mimi's friend seeks help to get rid of an "unwanted baby."

10.30 Jake and the Fatman: "Lady be Good." A woman plots a murder. Will the police stop her on time? Starring: William Conrad and Joe E. Penny

11.30 News Summary/followed by Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

### KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran

6.10 Noveltoons: cartoon serial

6.30 Fire raiser: the children help the police to find clues to a murder

7.00 Footsteps: "The Wonders of Ellora." A British archaeologist examines the temples and ruins of Ellora, India.

8.00 News in English

## RADIO PROGRAMMES

### BBC World Services

0000 Newslak

30 Meganix

0100 News Summary followed by Outlook

25 Financial News

30 Poems by Post (ex 31st W. B. Yeats: Readings from the Poems)

45 Europe's World

0200 World News

09 British Press Review

15 Network UK

30 Sports International

0300 World News

09 News about Britain

15 The World Today

30 John Peel

0400 Newslak

30 The Learning World

45 New Ideas

55 Book Choice

0500 World News

09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary

30 Financial News

40 Words of Faith

45 The World Today

0600 Newslak

30 The Beeb's Lost Beatles

0700 World News

09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary

30 Europe's World

45 Network UK

0800 World News

09 Words of Faith

15 Health Matters

30 Meganix

0900 World News

09 British Press Review

15 The World Today

30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup

45 Havana Guitar Festival (ex 3rd Mario Lanza)

1000 News Summary followed by Discovery

30 Sports International

1100 World News

09 News about Britain

15 Waveguide

25 Book Choice

30 Citizens

1200 Newslak

15 Multitrack 1: Top 20

45 Sports Roundup

1300 World News

09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary

30 Network UK

45 Recording of the Week

1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News

45 Havana Guitar Festival (ex 3rd Mario Lanza)

FM Services.

0600 Opening/Easy Listening

0830 News

0840 Easy Listening

1000 Songs and Music

1200 Arabic Music

1300 Easy Listening

1330 News on FM Service

1400 Classical Music

1600 Easy Listening

1700 Italian Hour

1800 Pops

1900 Heiter Skeller

2000 Pops

2130 News

2200 Indian Classical Hour

2300 Easy Listening

2400 Instrumental Listening

0200 Closedown

### NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait

Al Dubai Pharmacy

Souk Wafel, Algiers St

Al Mojil Pharmacy

Mojil Bldg., Abdullah Al Mubarak St

Hawalli and Nugra

Al Najat Pharmacy

Qismiyah 63, Hawalli

Salamiya and Rumsaithiya

Al Sahara Pharmacy

Salem Al Mubarak St

Fahaheel and Ahmadi

Al Itihad Pharmacy

Makkah St.

Farwaniya

Al Munawar Pharmacy

South Souk St

Jahra

Al Najah Pharmacy

Badar Sumait Bldg., Area 4

### Football Tournament

JAN 20: Rising Stars seven-

side one-day football tournament will be held at Al Sour Ground. Teams wishing to participate can contact Lawrence

— Tel: 4832409/2657293; Eric — Tel: 3262800/5650466.

### PBAK Elections

JAN 20: 6 pm. The Philippine Bowlers Association in Kuwait will hold their annual general elections. All PBAK members are requested to attend. For details call Sarah Macarimbang — Tel: 4843447.

### Second Filipino non-pro bowling

JAN 20: 8.30 am: Zamboanga City vs Paranaque; San Juan vs Valenzuela; 11.30 am: Manila vs Las Pinas; Calocan City vs Quezon City; 2.30 pm: Mandalayong vs Baguio City; Cavite City vs Makati. The tournament has been jointly sponsored by Dollaro and Holiday Inn.

### Laser Sailing

FEB 3: Start of Messilah Beach laser club's spring series. Laser owners and others interested are welcome. For details contact David Clark: 4845171/2425947; P. Shepherd — 4841513/5314957; P. Berry — 3924174.

## PRAYERS

Fajr 5.20 am

Zuhr 11.58

Asr 2.54 pm

Maghreb 5.13

Isha 6.34

Continental and Indian food.

Special buffet for Thursday

dinner and Friday lunch. Dar-

bar: daily Indian lunch buffet,

except Friday; a la carte dinner.

At the Kuwait Plaza

FILIPINO night held every

Sunday from 7



# ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

YOU cannot climb the ladder of success with cold feet of fear — Anonymous

## Soviets beating a hasty retreat

By Maureen Johnson

KABUL, Afghanistan, (AP): Alongside the icy runway at Kabul airport, some 500 Soviet troops laden with equipment line up before giant transport planes. The departure is the latest in what Western diplomats say is a rapidly accelerating Soviet pullout from Afghanistan.

Some Soviet diplomats have hinted that the Red Army may not meet a Feb 15 deadline to withdraw. But the pullout process appears well under way, with one diplomat estimating that up to 7,000 of the 50,000 Soviet troops who were here as of Jan 1 may have already left.

As the Soviet troops boarded their planes on Friday, rebel mujahideen guerrillas, assisted by a bitter winter, appeared to be making an increasingly effective attempt to blockade the city of 3 million people. In downtown Kabul, Afghans huddled in blankets against the biting cold, forming long lines for bread or gasoline.

The price of nan, a common type of flat bread, has more than doubled to about 15 afghanis. At the commonly used black-market rate, a US dollar is worth 200 afghanis, about four times the official rate.

**Shortage**  
Last Sunday, a regular working day in this Muslim country, the bread shortage was so acute that 80 per cent of bread stores were closed. Witnesses said a group of Afghan soldiers broke into and robbed one store that still had supplies. Sugar ran out in most places about a month ago.

And amid an atmosphere rife with rumour, fear, apprehension and uncertainty, better-off Afghans are exacerbating the shortages by stockpiling.

Meanwhile, large parts of the city are without power for up to six hours daily. In what appears to be part of an effort to conserve power, the university closed in November, a month early, and is due to reopen in March, a month late.

One Western diplomat speculated that the visibility of

acute shortages in Kabul was one reason the embattled, Moscow-supported administration of President Najib seems to have postponed plans to admit a large contingent of foreign reporters in mid-January. Some diplomats also conclude that the Soviets want to get out as quickly and with as little publicity as possible.

Under a United Nations-mandated agreement, the Soviet troops — first sent in December 1979 — began moving out on May 15. Half the 100,000 Soviet troops had gone by Aug 15, and the rest are due to go by the February deadline.

The latest troop pullout began on Jan 1, diplomats say. In the past three days, posts only a few miles (kms) outside the capital have been handed over to Afghan troops.

Departing Soviet troops observed Friday at Kabul Airport were lined up beside two giant blue-and-white Ilyushin 76 transport planes, flanked by more than a dozen smaller Antonov aircraft. Diplomats estimate that, on the average, seven to eight Ilyushin 76s arrive and leave daily.

**Delay**  
Mujahideen rebel groups this week broke off negotiations with Yuli Vorontsov, the Soviet deputy foreign minister and ambassador to Kabul, and he hinted that if the insurgency continued, the Soviet troops might delay their departure.

But Western diplomats here say the current rate of withdrawal indicates that the bulk of the Soviet troops are likely to be gone ahead of schedule.

Soviet civilian advisers to the Afghan government are also departing, although there are no firm numbers on how many of the estimated 2,500 advisers remain. Diplomats say that in the

past week, the number at the Ministry of Health has been cut from 16 to two, and at the Afghan-Soviet Transport Company, from 20 to five.

This week, the Soviets shut down their 700-bed military hospital in Kabul, pulled out all the medical staff and handed the facility over to the Afghans.

## Salinas wins first major battle

By Eloy O. Aguilar

MEXICO CITY, (AP): President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has won his first battle in a war with the bosses of the Oil Workers Union, the most powerful union in Mexico but also one widely accused of corruption.

In a bold move on Tuesday morning, Salinas had union leader Joaquin Hernandez Galicia, known by the diminutive "La Quina," and 50 of his associates, including secretary-general Gustavo Barragan Camacho, arrested on charges ranging from illegal possession of guns to contraband, tax evasion and homicide. Hernandez Galicia faces a maximum sentence of 40 years.

More arrests are expected in the near future, a highly placed source in the attorney general's office told the Associated Press. He said Salinas planned to "clean up the situation."

"We do not want to make it look like a witch hunt," a government source said on condition of anonymity, "but this is not the end."

**Freeze**  
One likely additional charge is "unexplained wealth." The government has ordered a freeze of the bank accounts of the top leaders.

It was the new president's first confrontation with the powerful Mexican unions and he picked a foe past presidents had left alone, fearful of La Quina's power.

Critics, both in and outside the government, claimed union chiefs led by Hernandez Galicia amassed fortunes, controlled lives and sold jobs in a paternalistic system that built loyalties and gave bosses political leverage in the ruling Revolutionary Institutional Party, or PRI.

The system, to appease the union, gave it an unofficial power quota. Despite losses in July 6 elections, the union has one senator and seven representatives. Hernandez Galicia also had his men as chiefs of police, judges and city councilmen in the oil regions.

Officials considered Hernandez Galicia a volatile leader who blackmailed government administrations through his union power and control over the state oil monopoly, Pemex, which at one time was forced to grant the union 40 per cent of its contract work. Much of the work was done by companies set up by Hernandez Galicia and his associates.

**Repressive**  
He was frequently called repressive and authoritarian and accused of fraud, nepotism and even murder. Unexplained deaths and beatings of those opposed to La Quina were publicly blamed on him and his men in the past but they were never charged.

He always dismissed the charges as attempts by jealous foes who were trying to turn the president against him and the union.

Two bodyguards arrested with him last week signed statements saying they had killed another labour leader on La Quina's orders, according to the attorney general's office.

On Jan 3, after visiting Salinas with other labour leaders, Hernandez Galicia threatened to call a general strike if the government "yielded as much as one millimetre of the oil industry to private business."

**Control**  
The statement did not endear him to a president who has said that the state will retain control of the oil industry, but will seek private domestic investment in related secondary industries.

Hernandez Galicia opposed the nomination of Salinas, the man responsible as budget and planning secretary for eliminating many of the union privileges. The 66-year-old union chief, a welder who took over the union in 1964 and saw his power expand as the oil industry became Mexico's top source of foreign income, was a revered figure who dispensed favours to the rank and file, had children to be named after him and was generous to schools and churches.

## Popularity ratings high even as Reagan prepares to bow out

## Great Communicator to remain busy on mashed potato circuit

By Helen Thomas

WASHINGTON, (UPI): Ronald Reagan is riding tall as he heads back to California, confident that he made the difference and history will view his presidency in a kindly light.

Reagan, who will be 78 next month, is the first president since Dwight Eisenhower to serve eight years in office. Few of his predecessors have matched his popularity ratings even as he prepares to bow out.

But don't count him out. Reagan rejected lame duckism in his last year in the White House. And he makes it clear that proud as he is of his accomplishments, he has an unfinished agenda — no retirement at "Rancho el Cielo," his mountaintop 688-acre spread near Santa Barbara, California.

He plans to be busy on what he calls "the mashed potato circuit," with predictions that he may be able to claim as much as \$50,000 a speech, a hefty honorarium in anybody's league.

**Budget**  
As a lecturer he hopes to campaign for a balanced budget amendment and line item veto power for the president, two goals dear to his heart that he failed to achieve in his presidency.

Reagan also plans to embark on an ambitious writing project, starting with his memoirs, a chore he does not look forward to when he remembers the tedious hours he put in to write his autobiography, "Where's the rest of me."

In addition, he will continue to work closely with Edmund Morris, his authorized biographer who has been working on a book for the past three years with extraordinary access to the White House and the records.

Since he has been in broadcasting since the 1930s, Reagan is expected to continue his weekly radio programme, and perhaps will write a newspaper column.

Past presidents live in high style forever with round-the-clock secret service protection and chauffeuring. Reagan will have a glassed-in penthouse office suite of many rooms in Century City and a staff paid by

the federal government. Privileges and perks abound.

The groundbreaking has begun on his new Spanish-style presidential library in the Simi Valley between Los Angeles and Santa Barbara, and Reagan will be keeping tabs on its construction and fundraising for the project that will be run by the National Archives.

During the Yuletide season, the Reagans moved into their five-bedroom mansion in Bel Air, a fashionable section of Los Angeles, which was purchased by a group of California friends for \$2.6 million.

A short time after he was inaugurated Jan 20, 1981, Reagan went to the Oval Office for the first time with a covey of aides and signed an executive order freezing federal employment. Sitting at his desk, he put the pen down, looked teasingly at the reporters and asked, "Can I go back to California now?"

He will always have the title of "Mr President" but he will be back home in California where he spent more than 365 days vacationing during his eight years in office.

**Great**  
Reagan's admirers, particularly the conservative constituency that helped bring him to office, say that he has been a great president. "He has a tremendous capacity to decide the big things and to stick to them," said British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, one of his strongest supporters.

Early on he was dubbed the "great communicator," a tribute to his speechmaking prowess after years of acting in front of a Hollywood camera, but his performances without a script left something to be desired and he often stumbled and appeared out of touch.

Reagan kept his credentials intact as the eternal optimist whose sunny "Morning in America" outlook was aimed at making Americans "feel good about themselves." Heroes were his big thing. It was a rare dissident who was ever invited to the Reagan White House.

He came to Washington with a set of convictions on domestic



RONALD REAGAN

issues and apparently nothing happened to make him change his view. "I am a conservative," he often proudly proclaimed. And noting that he was once a Democrat, he insisted the party had changed, not him.

But he disappointed his followers in failing to overcome supreme court rulings banning mandatory school prayer and the legalisation of abortion.

**Problems**  
His detractors believe that he has left his successor, George Bush, with a host of monumental domestic problems, including an enormous deficit and a \$2.6 trillion national debt.

Reagan started a \$2 trillion military buildup that in the future will cost multibillions more for his dream of a "Star Wars" space defence system.

He put his own stamp on the presidency but it is doubtful that the hands off style of governing will carry over to the next administration or that any successor would be willing to defer so much power to his aides.

In the Oval Office, Reagan played the role of chairman of the board and his lack of attention to details came to haunt him when the Iran-Contra scandal broke.

"Surround yourself with the best people you can find, delegate authority and don't interfere," he once said.

Unlike some of his predecessors, he did not have a big ego, just plain confidence in what he was doing and where he was going.

Although it was least expected, his most important legacy may be in foreign policy with

opening of friendly relations with the Soviet Union, which Reagan once dubbed "the evil empire."

The rapprochement with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev marked the beginning of the end of the 40-year cold war and the reduction of tensions around the world.

The signing of the Intermediate Range Nuclear Missile Force Agreement with Gorbachev in December 1987 was the turning point in a relationship marked by hostility and belligerence.

**Crime**  
Reagan can claim a long way from his first news conference in 1981 when he said the Soviets "reserve unto themselves the right to commit any crime, to lie, to cheat ... and we operate on a different set of standards."

Now he thinks the United States can do business with Gorbachev and he has paved the way for Bush to tackle negotiations on the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty.

He has had major setbacks in foreign policy, particularly Nicaragua. The drive to oust the Sandinista government in Managua was sometimes called an "obsession." But in dramatically successful military moves he bombed Libya in 1986 and he invaded communist Grenada in 1983.

At no time has a new president had such golden opportunities to promote a more peaceful world because of the superpower breakthrough.

Reagan put his political campaign goals of a balanced budget on the back burner, and as he departs the scene, he was generously parcelled out the blame to Congress, special interests and the news media, a conglomeration he called the "iron triangle" of permanent power in Washington.

His luck and his likability have played no small part in his survival through the good and the bad of his tenure. Some called it a "telfon" coating that permitted him to escape the heavy burden of responsibility and blame for some of his failures.

On the other hand, it was with rare equanimity and good

humour that he faced vicissitudes in health, including a cancer operation, and early in his first administration an assassination attempt. A few hours after he was shot in the chest by John Hinckley, he told his wife, "Honey, I forgot to duck."

Under the guidance of the Heritage Foundation, which laid out an conservative agenda for him, he pursued privatisation of federal property and the nation's finite resources and deregulation of industries and sought to mitigate government intervention in business.

He initiated the "Reagan revolution," turning the country to the right and hoping to dismantle some of the New Deal and Great Society social programmes of the past. While restrained by Congress, he did succeed in crippling some of the programmes and eliminating others.

Reagan denigrated bureaucrats throughout and, even though he was running the government, set himself apart from it.

The president is a friendly man, but his friends date back to his California days, and most of them are in the multimillionaire class. He is remote and detached, but has shown immense loyalty to his aides.

**Debate**  
The biggest debate of his presidency was the scandal that enveloped his administration in late 1986 when it was revealed that he had secretly sold arms to Iran in a trade for hostages, and national security deputies funnelled the profits to the Nicaraguan rebels.

Reagan, who claimed no knowledge of the secret funding of the rebels, called Contras, last 20 points in the popularity polls and a weekly Anderson-Gale survey showed his approval rating dropping and avoiding reporters.

But he has not been back in his last year in office and went all out to ensure that his successor would be the vice-president. No president in history has campaigned as much to keep his own party in the White House. In the process he had fun deriding liberals and making them political pariahs.

## Past recalled as Bush prepares for office

By W. W. Norton

WASHINGTON, (AP): George Washington trembled as he delivered his first presidential inaugural address. Abraham Lincoln was thrown off his stride by a spectator falling from a tree. Harry Truman was 29 minutes late.

Now it's George Bush's turn to take the oath of office.

From the flags and bunting to the metal detectors, everything is just about set for Friday's repetition of the presidential swearing-in ceremony that Franklin Roosevelt called "a day of national consecration."

The inauguration of an American president has, in its 200-year history, been marked by eloquent prose, adorned by poetry, buried under a blizzard, pelted with rain and on two occasions visited by such weather that participants had to move indoors.

It has seen reunions of Theodore Roosevelt's rough riders, of the battery that Corporal Truman led in the World War I and of the P-T boat crew that John F. Kennedy commanded.

The weather also has varied. It rained of FDR's inaugurations in 1933 and 1936, as well as on Lin-

coln's second one in 1866. In 1909, Washington was in the grip of a blizzard, so William Howard Taft took the oath in the Senate chamber instead of outside as usual.

In 1961, it was 28 degrees Fahrenheit (-2 Celsius) at noon, but the ceremonies went on at the East Front on the Capitol as scheduled.

**Cancelled**  
In 1984, with the temperatures in the dangerously cold range, Reagan cancelled all outdoor activities for his second inauguration.

The New York City commission on the bicentennial of the constitution, which is also observing the bicentennial of Washington's first inauguration, says the best account of it was given by an observer named William Maclay.

According to Maclay, George Washington, the father of his country "trembled, and several times could scarcely make out to read" as he delivered his address to a joint session of Congress at Federal Hall in New York.

By Washington's second inauguration, after the capital

had moved to Philadelphia, he was advised by his cabinet to hold a simple ceremony in the Senate chamber and travel to it "without form, attended by such gentlemen as he choose." He chose to ride alone, in his carriage.

**Thrown**  
At Lincoln's inauguration in 1862, according to an observer quoted in Sandburg's biography, "at one point in his speech, Lincoln was thrown completely off his balance for a moment by a crash not far in front of him, followed by something which for an instant looked like a struggle ... a spectator falling out of a tree."

As for Truman, he wrote in his memoirs that the pre-inauguration gathering in the Capitol rotunda took so long that the Marine band didn't strike up "Hail to the Chief" until 12.14 p.m. and it wasn't until 12.29 that he actually took the oath.

It didn't matter. He had been president since noon anyway. The constitution provides that the old president's term ends and the new president's term begins then nonetheless.

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By Washington's second inauguration, after the capital

## Second decade of US-Chinese diplomatic relations begins

## Wide cultural and ideological gaps remain

By Kathy Wilhelm

BEIJING, (AP): Communist China and the United States are about to enter their second decade of diplomatic relations with routine exchanges in virtually every field. But the contact has revealed wide cultural and ideological gaps that both sides are groping to deal with.

On Jan 1, 1979, Washington switched its recognition from the Nationalist Chinese in exile on Taiwan to the communists in Beijing.

For more than a century the United States and China, two proud continental powers, had regarded each other with mixed fascination and fear.

Now, for the first time, they could explore this fascination on equal terms, as one major power to another. The result was an avalanche of exchanges in every field, from dance to trade to military consultations.

Chinese citizens lined up outside the US embassy visa office, and inside the Kentucky Fried Chicken on Tiananmen Square, dramatise the extent to which the United States now represents the outside world to the average Chinese more than any other country.

Taxi drivers are more likely to be playing tapes of Madonna than of Beijing opera music. High-ranking officials are

rumoured to be fans of the US TV show "Hunter" now shown on Chinese television.

Tens of thousands of Chinese students have caught "English fever" and most try to cultivate American accents. "The United States has an influence not matched by any other country," said Zi Zhongyun, director of the Institute of American Studies at China's Academy of Social Sciences.

The fascination runs the other way, too. More than 300,000 US tourists came to China in 1988, along with one high school marching band, two Alaskan musk oxen, dozens of trade-hungry governors and mayors and more than 100 Santa Clauses from a US volunteer group.

"Americans and Chinese working together have dispelled mystery and built trust," US ambassador Winston Lord told a recent anniversary gathering.

But the terms of the relationship are changing, even as the new US President-elect, George Bush, is sure to understand the Chinese more than his predecessors as a former US liaison officer in China in 1974-75.

China is rapidly mending its nearly 30-year quarrel with the Soviets, ending any US thoughts of playing one communist power against the other.

over Taiwan, human rights and trade reveal a deep residue of cultural misunderstanding and nationalist resentment.

"On the US side there is what I would call the superpower mentality," Ms Zi said in an interview. "The United States always thinks it is the final judge of what is right and what is wrong."

She and other Chinese scholars said most Americans don't understand China.

But US businessmen in China say it is Chinese who are out of step with the rest of the world, citing their failure to observe international business practices.

"They always regard Americans as being so rich, they think we should pay extra because we have more," one businessman fumed. "If they would just treat us as equals I would appreciate it."

However, Zi said whatever ill-feelings linger are slight compared to the mutual hostility before then-President Richard Nixon's dramatic visit to China in 1972. China and the United States had fought in the Korean war, and most Chinese accepted Chairman Mao Tse-tung's appraisal of the United States as an imperialist threat.

Mutual disdain for the Soviet Union brought the former enemies together. "Mao didn't want to have two

enemies at once, so he decided that the Soviets were more dangerous and that relations should be improved with the Americans," Zi said.

The United States wanted to discourage healing of the Chinese-Soviet rift and use better relations with China to press Moscow to open détente.

But now, under President Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet Union has tempered its aggressive stance and increased friendly exchanges with both Washington and Beijing.

The first Chinese-Soviet summit since 1959 could take place next year.

But ambassador Lord said in an interview that improved Chinese-Soviet relations are no threat to the United States.

"They have racial and historical tensions and geo-political competition in Asia and elsewhere," Lord said. "At best their relationship is going to be an ambivalent one."

He and Ms Zi both said China and the United States still need one another, even without any threat from the Soviets. The Chinese want US technology and investment. Beijing also needs co-operation on Asian political affairs to allow to focus on economic development, not defence.

## Cyclone survivors live primitive lives

By Suprakash Ghoshal

CALCUTTA, (Reuters): The dead are being dumped into the river, and the living flee to hide their nakedness when relief workers approach.

It is, says one survivor in India's West Bengal state, the kind of disaster which "not even relief supplies can help."

A cyclone struck Bangladesh and the southern part of West Bengal on the night of Nov 29. It killed 100 in West Bengal and 5,000 people in Bangladesh.

In West Bengal, hundreds of thousands of people were condemned to even more impoverished lives in an over-crowded region.

Nanibala Devi, 50, leans against a broken wall of what was once her home in the village of Hinglajuni. Her family was killed in the storm.

**Dumping**  
"People are just dumping their dead in the river, or leaving them in the mud," she says. "We are all destined to that wretched end, we know, all of us."

Many of the villagers do not even care.

"I can't cry any more, you know. For whom should I cry? There is no one left," said Santosh Mondal, who found the bodies of his wife and children in a paddy field.

"He doesn't eat," his neighbour Chaitan Bag, 60, says. "He doesn't talk, doesn't even sleep. He will never recover."

And quite a number of people in these villages have been so hopelessly depressed. This is a kind of problem not even relief supplies can help.

What relief supplies there are

are inadequate, relief workers say.

State Health Department reports say victims of diarrhoea, dysentery and fever are thronging village health centres, but there are no basic medicines to give them.

"Many people will die a slow, painful death, and though the deaths will be due to natural causes, I will hold the government responsible for them," said a medical official in Hasmabad who asked that his name not be used.

**Help**  
Some women are refusing help because they do not have enough clothes to preserve their modesty in front of relief workers.

"As you approach the villages, you would be shocked to see that scantily clad women, almost half nude, are rushing to hide their selves behind tree trunks," said Swarnap Das, a community welfare worker in Hasmabad.

At least 50,000 homes were destroyed, condemning people to live exposed to the elements.

"This also will take its toll in the course of time," said a relief worker in the village of Midnapore. "People will die of fever, pneumonia and other diseases, especially children, and nobody will even get to know."

Farmers feel they will never again be able to feed the people of the region.

"The storm came when the harvesting season had just begun," said Jeevan Maity of Midnapore, "just when we were about to reap the harvest of our hard labour."

"We've been reduced to beggars. But how long can we live like this? We'll not recover. We're finished."

## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1562 — Michel de L'Hopital promulgates edict of St Germain, which recognizes Huguenots in France.
- 1595 — France's King Henry IV declares war on Spain.
- 1601 — Treaty of Lyons between France, Spain and Savoy; Capital of Spain is transferred from Madrid to Valladolid.
- 1626 — Treaty of Koenigsberg between Sweden and Brandenburg.
- 1759 — Holy Roman Empire declares war on Prussia.
- 1852 — Sand River convention establishes South African Republic of Transvaal.
- 1945 — Soviet troops and Polish patriot forces liberate Warsaw, more than five years after it fell to Nazi Germany in World War II.
- 1948 — Netherlands and Republic of Indonesia sign truce.
- 1959 — Federal state of Mali is formed by union of republics of Senegal and French Sudan.
- 1967 — Indonesia's Foreign Minister Adam Malik tells President Sukarno to resign or face alternative of being brought down in dishonour.
- 1983 — Iran says Revolutionary Guards



## ARCHAEOLOGY

## Rich collection of Roman mosaics found in Cyprus

By Kerin Hope

PAPHOS, Cyprus, (AP): Archaeologists have unearthed more than 100 brightly coloured mosaic floors patterned with mythological figures and geometric designs in one of the Mediterranean's richest finds of Roman mosaics.

The mosaics, made of thumb-nail-sized cubes of cut stone known as tesserae, decorated wealthy Cypriot homes in the days of the Roman empire when Paphos was a bustling trading port and the island's capital.

"They were the ancient equivalent of a fitted carpet, and a status symbol. Upper middle-class people liked to have them in the rooms where they entertained," Demetrios Michaelides, the government archaeological officer in charge of the 950,000-square-yard (794,200-square-mile) site, said in an interview.

The Paphos mosaics unearthed so far have become Cyprus' biggest tourist attraction, drawing more than 250,000 visitors a year.

Michaelides speculates they represent just "the tip of the iceberg. There may well be more than another 100 mosaics on the site."

British soldiers digging an air-raid shelter in 1942, during World War II, found the first mosaic floor, depicting the mythical strongman Hercules about to attack a lion. They covered it up again.

Another chance find 20 years later: set-archaeologists digging systematically. They unearthed a mansion filled with mosaics and called it the House of Dionysos, the ancient god of wine and revelry who featured prominently in the decorations.

Three other mansions with spectacular mosaic floors have been dug out in recent years, including one so lavish that it was identified as the Roman provincial governor's palace.

The Hercules mosaic was rediscovered in 1978, recorded and covered up again in 1984. It was uncovered again and is now on view.

The Paphos mosaics are displayed in situ, protected by specially constructed roofed shelters. Visitors view the mosaics from raised wooden walkways.

"They're fascinating work. It's surprising to find a highly developed mosaic art in Cyprus at a point when it was really one of the empire's provincial backwaters," said Christina Kondoleon, professor of art at Williams College, Massachusetts, who is publishing a book on the Paphos mosaics.

Naturalistic figures are surrounded by borders in floral and geometric designs based on classical architecture and intended to give a three-dimensional effect.

"The designs are lively and creative... mosaics copied each other and used pattern books, but these are often original with a very wide colour range," she said in an interview.

Scholars agree that the mosaics were made of local stone by Cypriot craftsmen influenced by the sophisticated styles of mosaic workshops in Antioch, on the coast of nearby Syria.

Michaelides said many were laid during a period of exceptional prosperity in Paphos in the late 2nd and early 3rd century A.D.

One of the finest shows Orpheus, a mythological musician whose playing reputedly tamed wild beasts, seated on a rock with his lyre performing for an audience that included a tiger, a leopard, deer and several other animals.

It measures 4.25 metres by 5.10 metres (13 feet, 6 inches by 16 feet, 4 inches). The colours include a subtle range of grays, pinks and browns.

A later series, again of Dionysos and his followers dressed in luminous coloured robes, dates from the mid-4th century A.D. when Christianity was gaining ground in Cyprus.

It carries a definite message, Kondoleon said.

"They're of beautiful quality and are certainly making an anti-Christian statement," she said, "the old pagan values."

Researcher claims history books are wrong

## King Tut was no wimp



King Tutankhamun: one of the world's best-known but least understood pharaohs

By Mimi Mann

LUXOR, Egypt (AP): The world knows Tutankhamun as a do-nothing teen-age pharaoh whose claim to fame is his tomb, but a researcher says the real Tut is a victim of an ancient cover-up.

Eight years ago American Ray Johnson began piecing together a scene carved in the sandstone of a smashed temple wall. Bit by bit one of the world's best-known but least-understood pharaohs emerged from the sandstone as more of a Rambo.

"The real Tut was no wimp (weakling)," said Johnson, an artist from Jefferson, Maine, who specialises in re-creating the long-dead world of ancient Egypt.

What he found is the world's first recorded story of a battle, which he has reproduced on paper scaled down from the 60 feet (18 metres) of stone images.

Amid minute details of armies and weapons, slaves, booty and a macabre account of the great 3,310-year-old conflict stands King Tut.

He's not the boy whose golden good looks appear on tourist bric-a-brac. Johnson's Tut is a brave warrior, proud and strong, leading from his chariot a charge against the Hittites, traditional trouble-makers for the ancient Egyptians.

"This is not a mock battle," Johnson said. "It's so real, it's as though there was an artist recording every detail, which would be put later into a scene... but this time in stone."

Johnson believes the detail and realism of the scene, and the fact that Tut is not portrayed in heroic proportions, excludes the possibility that the carving was an effort to make Tut appear more of a soldier or hero than he really was.

Accidental

The researcher's accidental discovery of the warrior Tut began on Luxor's relic-filled shores across the Nile River from the Valley of the Kings, where the Pharaoh's tomb was found 66 years ago. He came to Egypt as an artist for Chicago House, a wing of the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute.

In Luxor, Chicago House scholars copy fading inscriptions from some of ancient Egypt's great but crumbling temples, recording them before they disappear.

Johnson chanced upon more than 40 sandstone blocks showing the battle, clumped together among about 2,000 stones he was examining. Each segment begins where the other leaves off, from the beginning of the battle until King Tut sails for home.

He calls his facsimile the "great granddaddy" of battle scenes, an art form that would reach its peak during the next hundred years under the more egotistical Pharaohs Seti I and his son, Ramses II.

Two sections of the panel are unique in Egyptian artwork, Johnson said.

"Here are spears with the hands of enemy dead skewered on them like shish kebab," he said, pointing to a victory scene. "Other (temple) drawings have piled-up hands but nothing quite so gruesome."

"Then in another section you have the pharaoh returning to Egypt in his royal barge, towed by four rowboats with two rows of soldiers escorting the triumphant ruler."

Johnson said Hittite records have been found outside Egypt depicting such a battle at Kadesh in Syria, but without the tantalizing details and without identifying Tutankhamun on the scene, as Johnson's battle scene does.

"Chances are this was not a major war but still a battle to teach the Hittites a lesson," he said.

Image

"As the drawing shows, Tut was there, probably having the good sense to attack when a large number of the enemy was busy elsewhere and then getting out of Kadesh before a major confrontation began."

"Still, there are Hittite indications that their king was captured, and here on the blocks is a wonderful scene of a captive in a cage hanging by the steering oars in the boat on its way back to Egypt. It can be assumed his captive was important, perhaps our Hittite king."

Johnson said Tut's image problems as "a nothing pharaoh" is the curse of thousands of years of bad press and an ancient cover-up.

Egyptologist Howard Carter discovered Tutankhamun's resting place in 1922, the decayed mummy sharing eternity in a small, makeshift tomb with gold and priceless objects for a glorious afterlife.

Among the treasures was a child's chair and a small bracelet, probably Tut's. Johnson said these have misled scholars into thinking Tutankhamun died as a teenager, "a boy pharaoh who took the throne of Egypt as a young child and barely survived childhood, an ineffectual ruler who accomplished almost nothing."

Carter recorded more than 4,000 artefacts from Tut's tomb over a 10-year period, but only about 700 have been catalogued properly so far.

Since early cataloguers emphasised the fabulous, Johnson said, "we tend to forget the weaponry inside the tomb: his chariot, which resembles that on the blocks, his arrows, spears, daggers... some of the items actually appear to have been used."

"We have to remember his throne was the throne of a pharaoh, not of a child."

Tut apparently came to power about 1333 B.C., succeeding controversial Pharaoh Akhenaton and perhaps a short-lived pharaoh called Smenkhkara.

Johnson and other scholars are finding that he built massive projects throughout Egypt.

"Pieces from his efforts can be found in every museum in the world today," Johnson said. "But in the early days Tut didn't put his name on his handiwork, which led scholars to believe he died too young to do much of anything."

Within five years of Tut's death the powerful General Haremhab assumed the throne. He smashed Tut's temples, replaced Tut's name with his own on temple walls and erased evidence of the young pharaoh's role in the Kadesh victory.

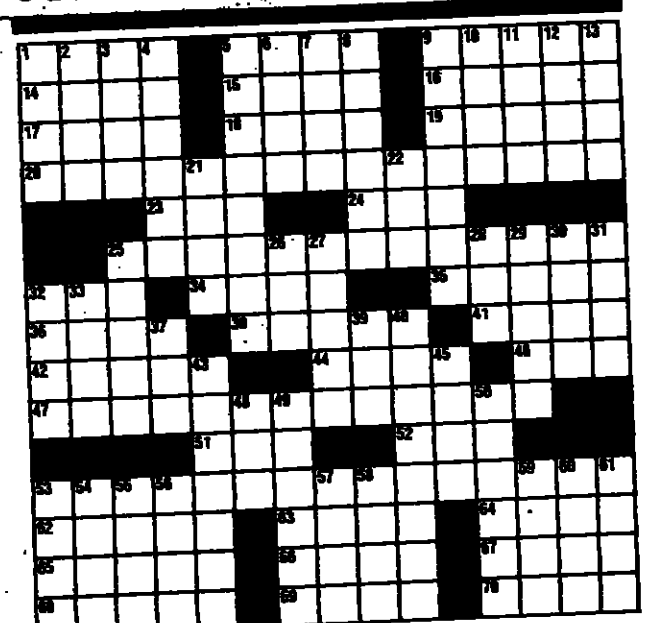
Haremhab also glorified his own participation during Tut's time in campaigns against the Libyans and Nubians.

"Haremhab simply rewrote history, writing Tut out and claiming fame only for himself," Johnson said. "Tut became almost a non-person. His legacy of warfare and active deeds wasn't allowed to exist."

Tutankhamun faded into oblivion, so much so that scholars still don't agree even on his parentage.

Johnson believes Tut had time to accomplish a lot because he lived longer than experts have believed.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- Too bad!
  - Honours' adjudicator
  - "Pirates of Penzance" heroine
  - Speech problem
  - Designer Cassini
  - Turner memoirs
  - Sundance Kid's girl
  - Tear's partner
  - Thurmond
  - "Man of the Year": 1958
  - "Up - Now" (Eugene McCarthy autobiog.)
  - Randy's rinkmate
  - "Woman of the Year": 1936
  - Airport abbr.
  - High - (avant garde)
  - Settled
  - Emblem of a sort
  - March coins?
  - On - (hot)
  - On - (hot)
  - Great Barrier Island
  - Men or den follower
  - "Man of the Year": 1984
  - Fed. arts agcy.
  - Former job-training prog.
  - "Man of the Year": 1947
  - A Shaw
  - New Zealand symbol
  - Dueler's need
  - Laugh -
  - Monogram
- DOWN
- Got a lift
  - VCR button
  - Vulcan's milieu
  - Headliner
  - One of the Waugh's
  - Mega or mono ending
  - Travel agents
  - Athens' rival
  - Hand-dried
  - de la Societe
  - Anthropologist Margaret
  - Audubon symbols
  - Sets one's sights too high
  - Adak's neighbor
  - Spin
  - Carbon compound
  - Cloth of gold
  - Joyful tune
  - Joyous, in Strasbourg
  - Station -
  - Hers, in Paris
  - Capp creature
  - Mid-east org.
  - Wedding dress material
  - Soup vegetable
  - "The Fountainhead" actress
  - airline
  - Mrs. Thatcher, for one
  - Ancient
  - Go or lead follower
  - Lady of Spain
  - Most protracted
  - Sale sign
  - Wedding write-up word
  - Mamie's successor
  - Earthy colors
  - Actress Teri
  - Put-in-Bay's lake
  - Sioux
  - Stravinsky's "of Spring"
  - After-dinner treat
  - Chalked up - (triumphed)
  - "...for - of ale": Shakes.
  - Shakes.
  - Spartan queen
  - Wanton look

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

TRANSLATE SODAS  
REGULATOR TWINE  
EVERYTIME RESTE  
NUNS LIVE CASPER  
DETERGE SIN ACE  
SOO ETAGERES  
ARA TESTA EGADS  
VETO SUAVE OGEE  
OSTEO ITERS EDS  
CORRUPTS EYE  
ANA TIE EMULATE  
TACOMA TAIL LOTS  
INTRA PARTICLES  
OCEAN ALLEVIAE  
NERDS CESSATION

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠84 ♥QJ73 ♦Q9 ♣KJ982  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ Dbl Pass ?  
What do you bid now?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AQJ76 ♥Void ♦A10843 ♣KQ5  
Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

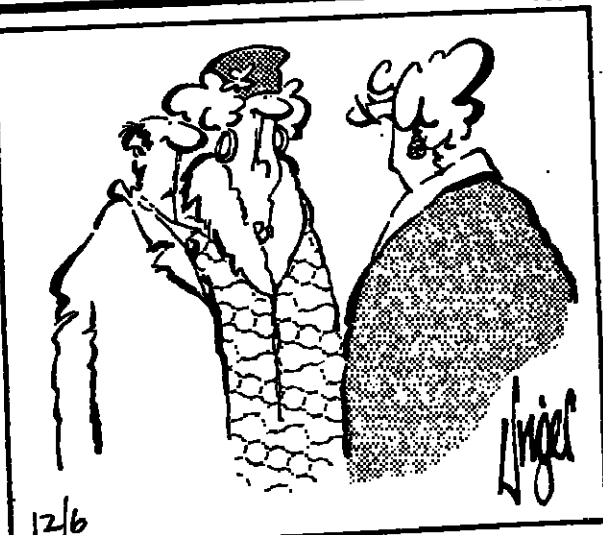
Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AQJ76 ♥Void ♦A10843 ♣KQ5  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 ♥ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South

you hold:  
♠J63 ♥Q7 ♦K82 ♣AQ1076  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
2 ♥ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠A963 ♥AQJ962 ♦72 ♣Q  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?

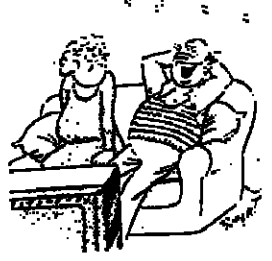
Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠K ♥K7 ♦KJ1092 ♣AK754  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♥ 2 ♠ ?  
What do you bid now?



"He thinks a chiropractor is an Egyptian doctor."



"The pianist is sick..."



"No dashing off to the coast, no mowing - isn't winter great?"

## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.



By Johnny Hart

## YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You should avoid getting bogged down in secondary matters. Do not do to others what you would not have done to you. Avoid jumping to conclusions. Be more patient.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

There is no time to lose if you want to avail yourself of a good opportunity. You will be able to help a friend and should do so. Do not try to be quicker than you can do well. Be courteous.



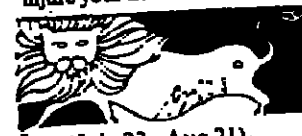
Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You should avoid underestimating other people. Something you had hoped for will not happen nor will something you had feared. Avoid allowing your attention to stray from the subject. Be resilient.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Do not allow yourself to be led into bad ways. Something you have been trying to repair will not work. hand it over to someone dealing with such matters. Make sure you do not do anything avoidable to injure your health. Be tolerant.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

If you keep calm whilst others are agitated you will get more of your way. You should not dwell too much on one theme. Make sure you are not late for an appointment. Be less obstinate.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will be rather too preoccupied with a personal problem. The prospects at work are better only you must work hard. Do not allow negative thoughts to predominate. Be a little more optimistic.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

You will be better able to tackle the issues at hand. You must keep your wits very much about you and not allow yourself to be persuaded to believe what you would like to believe.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Beware lest you say something you might come to regret. You should have a little more faith in yourself. Avoid allowing some small setback to put you off your stride altogether. Be magnanimous.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

Do not take too much for granted just now. Something you know you will have to do sooner or later should not be postponed unnecessarily. Make sure you get enough rest as well as enough exercise. Be considerate.



Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19

Something you do not at all like will have to be accepted. However you will know how to make the best of it. You will have to deal with a rather aggressive person and should keep calm in the process. Be lenient.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

Avoid spending as though money were no object. Mercury's better influence will help you to deal with a matter of some importance. Try not to let extraneous factors play too big a part in your decision making. Be cordial.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You should concentrate on what is most important just now. Do not allow yourself to be influenced by distinctions of class or by prejudice. You are more easily deceived and should beware accordingly. Be thankful.



Building a strong reputation on quality

# German blitz on fashion world

By Meggan Dissly

EVERY one knows about German cars, German sausage, and German pretzels, but ... German fashion?

When the Princess of Wales showed up at a royal polo match two years ago with a red-and-white, polka-dotted skirt and matching socks, designed and manufactured by the Mondri company in Munich, the outfit quickly sold out in British stores. Despite getting criticism for not buying British, the Princess shows up regularly at the Mondri showroom in London and carts away hip German outfits by the dozen.

"The success of German fashion is a very well-kept secret," says Klaus Steilmann, Europe's largest clothing manufacturer, from Bochum-Wattenscheid in Germany's Ruhr district. Steilmann exports 51 per cent of his production to 41,000 stores in North America, South Africa, Asia, and Europe, for a turnover of \$630 million last year.

Surprisingly, German clothing sales, totalling \$12 billion last year, outstripped those of France and Italy. Germany ranks after Italy, Hong Kong, South Korea, and Taiwan in clothing exports, but well ahead of the United States and Japan. And German styles have made inroads everywhere, including such fashion capitals as London, Milan, Tokyo, New York — even proud Paris.

## German clothes

"A few years ago, we wouldn't have touched German clothes," says Ute Steiner, a German-born buyer at a discount shop in Paris' Latin Quarter. Today about a third of the store's merchandise is marked "Made in Germany."

Karl Lagerfeld, the German-born creator who designs for Chanel and Fendi, as well as under his own name, fled to France to pursue his craft years ago. But last year he agreed to design a special women's sportswear line (called "KL") for the Steilmann company German-



Escada evening dress: elegant and whimsical

based designers such as Jil Sander and Wolfgang Joop have acquired international renown. "Germans used to copy everybody else, but now we are beginning to have some real designers of our own," says Hansi Pandori of the German edition of Vogue.

Sander likes to think of herself as a pioneer in German fashion, and she is. Ever since she showed her first collection in 1975, she has been crusading to free German fashion from "a kind of kitsch."

She describes her clothes as

"avant-garde classics." As in other German designs, the basics are trousers and tweed jackets; but instead of gussying up her clothes with busy prints and motifs, Sander gives them a smooth, uncluttered line. She likes oversized coats with big, rounded shoulders, and trousers with large, turned up hems. Her colours are earthy: peat, brownish reds, beiges. Sander uses fabrics such as cashmere and silk to feminize the masculine cut of her designs, but she also experiments with new synth-

etics and blends.

The Germans don't claim to have cornered the market on original, avant-garde designs. But they seem to have found their own niche in the market: quality.

## Reputation

German companies have built a strong reputation based on their streamlined manufacturing methods and reliability in delivery, as well as high quality. Fabrics are often imported from France or Italy, but the "Made in Germany" label represents exceptionally good handiwork (some French designers like Louis Feraud have their clothes made in Germany).

Helene Vahg, owner of a new Escada boutique in Paris on the famous Rue du Faubourg St. Honore, used to carry French and Italian brands, including Krizia, but she now sells Germany's Escada exclusively. "Some of the other clothes were more original, but the quality of the manufacturing and the follow-up were a disaster in comparison," says Vahg. With Escada, there are no surprises. "A Size 10 is always a Size 10."

## Carry

In the United States, many major department stores carry German brands. Mondri has 50 stores under its own name in the US, and sells in Korea, Taiwan, and Japan, as well as Europe, for an annual turnover of \$210 million. Escada now does about one-fourth of its business in the US, with sales of \$193 million in 1987, up from \$26 million in 1980. "Escada is the backbone of our clothes sales," says Don Cooper of the Popular Dry Goods Company in El Paso, Texas.

While German designers specialize in sporty classics, their originality, if any, lies in a multiplicity of co-ordinates. Mondri begins with a certain number of colour themes, then designs complete outfits, with matching shoes, hats, and socks. Escada's owner and chief designer, Margaretha Ley, is famous for her sweaters



German fashion: avant-garde without being silly

with embroidered flowers and motifs. This season's Escada collection is built around blue and green jackets in Scottish plaid; the styles are laid back and feminine, with some dashes of daring. A grey and brown checked tweed vest, for example, may be combined with a short, sleek leather skirt, with a rose at the hem.

Escada and Mondri use teams of stylists from France, Japan, the US, Scandinavian countries. The result is a hodgepodge of designs, international in concept, that are durable and easy to wear for women of different ages, sizes, and pocketbooks.

"We don't go overboard. We translate avant-garde into something our customers can wear without looking silly," says Mondri president Herwig Zahm.

"We develop our own trends on the trends," says Steilmann.

1989, The Christian Science Monitor

THE current revival of interest in Indian textiles and fashion is of only passing interest to Faith and John Singh whose firm, Anokhi, is familiar for its rich hand-blocked prints and fine embroidery.

With 500 workers in poor and often drought-stricken Rajasthan, they are keener on steady global sales than on one season's fashion accolade.

But the timing is appropriate: Anokhi was founded exactly 20 years ago on the strength of the original hippy revolution.

The anniversary was celebrated, in the desert palace where The Far Pavilions was filmed, with a wonderfully flamboyant party.

The party brought two worlds together, counterpointing demonstrations of the ancient handicrafts which Anokhi fosters — from vegetable dyeing to camel-hide slipper-making — with catwalk shows of the textiles translated as Western high fashion.

Faith, the daughter of the Anglican bishop of Nagpur, lived in India until independence and returned in the Sixties with friends interested in the commercial potential of Rajasthani textiles.

The hand-blocking and embroidery, already dying village crafts, enthralled her. She remained in Jaipur as the local "connection" to set up an export business. Her only relaxation from work was swimming in the pool of the plush Rambagh Palace Hotel, where a fellow swimmer was a wealthy young Indian called John Singh.

By way of introduction, she swam over and asked him for a loan. Despite his misgivings, he thought about her project for 24 hours, sold some family silver and produced 10,000 rupees.

Her first collection, in 1967, sold to Liberty's. Two years later, she married John and both determined that the course of their business and personal lives should create a blend of profit and philanthropy — the latter of some significance in an area desperate for aid.

"All I've done is create a marketing opportunity for crafts that would have died out without it," she says. "Handprinted and embroidered cloths patterned with vegetable or mineral dyes were being passed over for cheap, brighter, mass-produced materials."

"But there's a big Western



Faith and John Singh: improving the fabric of their society

market for these subtle colours and patterns. Our people work from the villages. Before, they had to travel 20 miles into Jaipur to find work. How long would it be before they joined the city squatters?"

A few hundred yards from the Singh's home and workshops, set round a shady garden, a festering shanty-town straggles alongside a flood channel that doubles as an open sewer, a constant reminder of what urban drift means in human terms.

Anokhi has blossomed into a £2.3 million international business with a slightly sophisticated approach. British designers re-draw and re-colour traditional patterns and create clothes with Western appeal, though the traditional methods and fabrics remain fundamental.

## Experimental

Interior furnishings and accessories are expanding, with curtain fabric, table linen, quilted and embroidered bed-spreads and cushions exported to Europe, the United States and the Far East. Yet for the Singhs and their three thoroughly bicultural children, the real profit in this expansion is in what it has enabled them to achieve in Rajasthan: a vibrant and self-sufficient experimental farm with a

veterinary centre serving several villages. They are starting a clinic on similar lines and run a small school in Jaipur, free, for poor local children.

It will shortly move to the country (with free board for current pupils), because, says John "though rural life may look less squalid, there are even fewer facilities than in towns."

Farther afield, they are involved in famine relief in Barmer, a desert area which supplies Anokhi's finest embroidery and was hard-hit in the recent four-year drought, only temporarily alleviated by this year's modest rains.

John energetically lobbied the government to conserve water catchment areas threatened by those two modern bugbears, the Third World, deforestation and urbanisation.

With water still short, he is angered by hotel pools kept full as a sop to tourism, but reserves his main wrath for the corruption endemic to Indian officialdom.

"Getting anything done here is difficult," he says. "And because of the handicraft nature of Anokhi we cannot expand hugely, so the help we can give will be limited. We are just a drop in the ocean. But the size of the problem is no excuse for inaction."

# Stockings make a comeback

By Sandra Maler

LONDON, (Reuter): Stockings have come out of the closet.

Shunned for years in favour of tights, stockings are enjoying a renaissance among British women and according to sales figures three out of 10 women in London now wear them.

"Stockings are not very restricting; the most erotic part of the thigh is uncovered. The leg is part covered, part-uncovered — it's quite tantalising," said Kim Undy-Burden, a senior fashion assistant at Cosmopolitan magazine.

"The attraction is for the man you're wearing them for," she said.

## Sales

Britain now has the highest percentage of sales of stockings versus tights in Europe, and hosiery experts predict garters, suspenders and stockings are in for a multi-million dollar boom that will sweep the world.

The stocking fashion has flourished into a £2.3 million pound sterling (\$40 million) a year business, about 17 per cent of Britain's hosiery turnover, and manufacturers say sales are booming.

"Britain has the highest sales

of stockings in Europe, and Europe the highest of all continents, but it's still developing and I think it's a trend that will develop in other continents," said Rick McKinlay, head of Couture marketing which holds the licence for Christian Dior hosiery in Britain.

According to manufacturers, British women have moved away from cheap, one-size tights in the past couple of years and now enjoy one of the largest selections of hosiery in Europe.

"Contrary to common belief, the hosiery market in the United Kingdom is one of the most fashion-conscious in Europe. People are beginning to realise after a long time that hosiery is not just leg coverings. It's a fashion accessory and it covers half of the body," McKinlay said.

"Ask any man and he perceives stockings to be much more sexy than tights and a lot of women dress up to please their partner," he added.

## Desire

Opinions differ on why a desire to be sexy should suddenly grip British women.

"Maybe it's because the younger generation of British women feel more confident about their body, their feminin-

ity. They are not ashamed of themselves. It's the same phenomenon that makes many women work out in gyms," said Nilgün Yusuf, a fashion writer for Elle magazine.

Hosiery sellers say two kinds of women wear stockings: middle-aged women who have never worn anything else and a younger generation which has discovered in stockings an old-fashioned chic.

"They like the idea of stockings being such a feminine article. Fashion has become very feminine," said Sandy Kilmen, the hosiery buyer for Selfridges department store in London's Oxford Street.

The interest in up-market hosiery and lingerie has seen franchises such as the sock shop, selling socks and hosiery, and lingerie sellers Knickerbox open shops throughout Britain.

"We even sell high-fashion underwear that you can wear at parties: 1950s underwired bras to be worn under a denim jacket or bright turquoise silk underwear," said Knickerbox spokeswoman Sarah Beerbohm.

Hosiery dates back to the middle-ages when tights were mostly worn by men but Britain claims the invention of the first manufactured stocking, by William Lee, a Nottinghamshire curate.

Lee, seeking the attention of a young lady who spent her time knitting stockings, invented the stocking frame and the knitting machine in 1589. Britain's hosiery industry is planning lavish celebrations to mark the 400th anniversary.

During World War Two, the shortage of nylon and silk made stockings such a rare commodity that women used to go bare legged with black lines drawn to simulate seams.



A shop assistant in a London store displays the British preference for stockings.



## FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: We have been told that we can expect a baby boy when I deliver, sometime in December. We have been asked if we wish to have the baby circumcised, and we're not sure what our answer should be. We only want it done if it can do some good and don't want to take any chances with our much desired baby. Do you have any information that can help us?

ANSWER: This is a difficult question for new parents to face, for the opinions remain divided among physicians about the procedure's benefits. Those that feel it's an important procedure for the newborn male baby point to many scientific studies that indicate a reduction of infections in the urinary tract of circumcised infants.

Other statistics would indicate that the risk of penile cancer in later years is almost nonexistent. Some reports suggest that the chance of contracting sexually transmitted disease are less in the population of circumcised men. But those who hold the opposing opinion say that good hygiene and education may offer the same results.

The issue of unnecessary cost is also discussed by opponents as a valid argument, since the procedure is about \$100. As you

## PARENTS UNSURE ABOUT CIRCUMCISION

indicated there are some risks, as with any surgical procedure, but those who support the concept feel that these are extremely low, complications averaging about two in 10,000. The risk of death is only about 1 in every 500,000 operations performed.

The Ad Hoc Task Force on Circumcision of the American Academy of Paediatrics could find no absolute medical indication for routine circumcision of newborns in 1975. But discussions continue, sometimes quite heated, often with as much emotion as science.

Ask your physician for his or her opinion, information and advice.

QUESTION: When my doctor told me that the cause of all my trouble was gallstones, I could have fainted. I am deathly afraid of anything that even resembles surgery, and I don't even want to go to a hospital for treatment. I know there must be another way, a diet or a medicine or something, that will let me stay at home and be treated there. Do you know of anything that can help me?

ANSWER: Your question resembles many others. When a diagnosis is made that can be corrected with surgery, we all begin to

seek other means of ridding ourselves of the ailment. Very often surgery is the only way to a cure, and I recommend that path, confident that skilled surgeons exist throughout our land with well-equipped hospitals to assure care and treatment necessary.

You dear reader, however, have "lucked out" if you will, for a new medication is available that may be able to help you. It's called ursodiol (brand-name Actigall manufactured by Ciba-Geigy) and comes in pill form. It is useful in dissolving non-calcified stones that are transparent (radiolucent) on X-ray.

You will have to check with your physician to be sure that the stones causing your pain are the type that this medication will work on. You will need a 300 milligramme dose twice a day and may experience some mild diarrhoea as a side effect, although, from your letter, I doubt that this will bother you half as much as your fear of surgery.

I hope this will work for you; otherwise you will have to rethink your position, for painful gallstones are not easy to live with.

1989 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

# Spring '89 fashions salute Coco Chanel

By Melissa Sones

NEW YORK (UPI): From gold buttons to comfortable tailored trousers and easy cardigan sweaters, there is no more important influence on next spring's clothes than the late Coco Chanel.

Born in Saumur, France in 1883, this independent, outspoken woman remains the most influential fashion designer of the 20th century.

She alone is responsible for the then revolutionary notion that women's clothes should be practical, easy to move in, understated yet elegant.

Her most famous statement: "It is not the dress that should wear the woman, but the woman who should wear the dress."

Built more like a skinny boy than a woman, Coco Chanel opened her first shop in Deauville, France at a time when dress codes ran to the stiff high collars and rigid petticoats of the late 19th century.

## Championed

Heavily influenced by classic English men's clothes, Chanel championed English tweeds, flannels, navy blazers, crisp white shirts, leather, knits and pared-down dinner jackets. In 1924, she created the flawlessly tailored — and widely, widely copied — Chanel suit. It is as much in style today as 60 years ago.

Coco Chanel was first to introduce pants for women, the "little black dress," strapless dresses, gold chain belts, crisp white shirts, jersey dresses, quilted handbags and the signature sling-back spectator pump with black tips.

Further underscoring timeless comfort and simplicity, she introduced the twin-set, cardigan suits, men's black-tie-evening clothes for women, the turtleneck sweater, the blazer, the signature scarf.

Coco Chanel herself was among the first to crop her hair, shorten her skirt and wear costume jewellery boldly.

This maverick didn't go unheralded. In the 1920s and '30s, she was the toast of Paris. Diaghilev, Picasso and Salvador Dali were friends. Jean Cocteau, another friend, believed that by some miracle, Chanel managed to apply to fashion the rules which seemed relevant only to painting, poetry and music. Like the best painting, what looks simple and elegant is most difficult.

## Fragrance

In 1924, Chanel also introduced Chanel No. 5, among the world's best-selling fragrances. At the time fragrance was not considered a fashion accessory.

"Perfume is a part of you," Chanel said. "No elegance is possible without it."

The story of Chanel No. 5 is well-known in fashion circles. Chanel asked Ernest Beaux, a great perfumer of the day, to develop potential fragrances. He did so, putting the potions in bottles labelled by number. Chanel chose bottle number five.

"Why not simply Chanel no. 5?" she said when looking for a name.

As famous as her scent is her packaging. Like the clothes, the black and white packaging is as timeless and classic today as

PARIS. (Reuter): French women look as well-dressed as ever these days, but trade figures released recently show they're increasingly wearing foreign-made clothes.

Although the world's richest women still come to Paris to buy haute couture gowns, less affluent French shoppers are turning up their noses at domestic clothing and choosing West German and Italian goods.

The French women's ready-to-wear clothing industry association (FFPP) said sales of foreign apparel rose 14.7 per cent in 1987, accounting for 23 per cent of the market or triple their 1980 share.

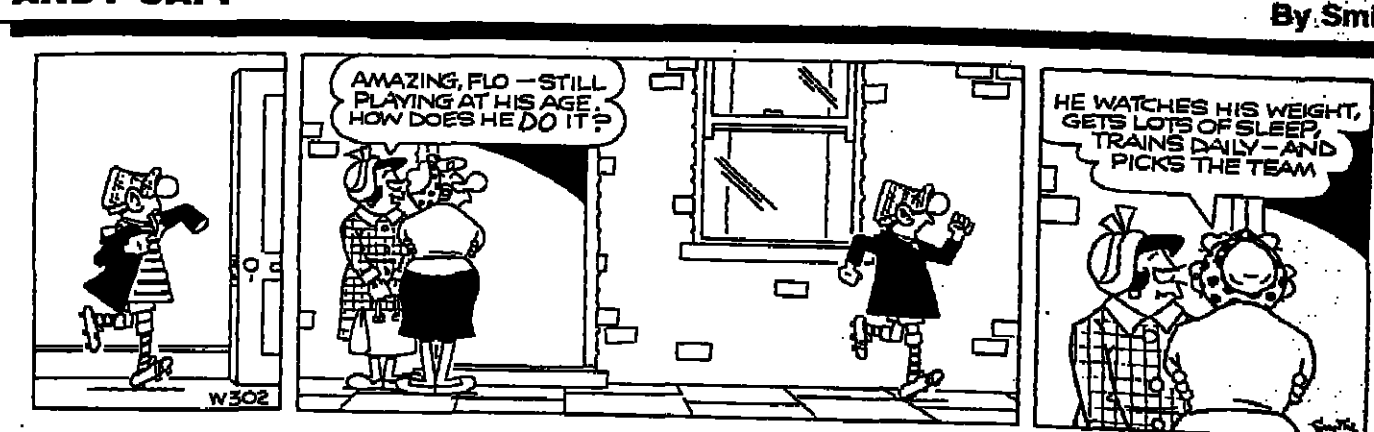
Total sales of French-made clothes last year rose only 1.5 per cent to 20.6 billion francs (\$3.26 billion). Exports rose just one per cent in 1987, but were double the 1980 total.

France's 2,200 manufacturers, mostly small companies with fewer than 50 employees, cut staff by 5.5 per cent.

The FFPP said clothing sales were depressed last year by a weak dollar and lower oil prices, which led American and Middle Eastern customers to drift away.

"With a stronger dollar and a ceasefire in the Gulf war, we could do better world-wide this year," an FFPP official said.

## ANDY CAPP



By Smith



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Fresh move to provide funds for reconstruction

## Arab group set to approve \$600m loan for Iraq

By Jadranka Porter

THE Arab Co-ordination Group appeared set to approve Iraq's request for a \$600 million loan in a first pan-Arab effort to provide funds for reconstruction of the war-devastated country.

Iraq asked the group of major Arab financing institutions for the loan during their two-day meeting in Kuwait which ended yesterday.

The loan would go towards reconstruction projects in Basra, namely the electrification of the city and building of the water supply network, said the Iraqi

delegate, Dr Hufidhi Bahiya. Part of the loan would be used for purchasing the foreign currency needed for the projects, he said.

Hufidhi said the group's initial response was good and expressed hope that the loan would be finalised in three months.

### Willingness

Hisham Al Wazayan of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) confirmed the group's willingness to give the Iraqi proposal a favourable consideration.

"There is willingness to consider each of Iraq's requests. There is also confidence among

the members that the loan will be repaid. Iraq is not a newcomer to the group," said Wazayan.

The Iraqis were asked to produce a feasibility study, list the priorities in their proposal and file an official loan request. A group of experts from the Arab Co-ordination Group will visit Iraq shortly to iron out the details of the proposal.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has ordered the Army to help rebuild the devastated port city of Basra. The cost of the entire reconstruction of the city is estimated at \$5 billion.

The eight-member group was also set to approve a loan of \$40

million by Iraq's Industrial Development Bank. The group which includes the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund for International Development, is financing an ongoing irrigation project in Iraq. The KFAED which is the member of the group, has contributed KD10 million towards the project.

### Debt

The delegates, who come from institutions in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and from pan-Arab organisations, did not appear overly concerned about Iraq's debt to Arab countries estimated at \$30 billion. Arab

states helped finance Iraq's war effort. These were government-to-government loans which have no direct bearing on the group's operation, said Wazayan.

A delegate at the conference said Iraq will repay its loans to Arab countries but also indicated that terms of repayment will show some flexibility. Some of the loan, he said, would be repaid in Iraqi products, such as lubricating oils, cement, sulphur and fertilisers.

Other projects under discussion were the Dam of Unity (Sad Al Wabdan) in Jordan, a phosphate mine in Jordan, a road

project in North Yemen, and a petroleum project in South Yemen.

The delegates also discussed delays in repayment of loans granted to Third World countries. Wazayan said the problem of arrears is serious and may lead to suspension of operations in countries which are low to repay the loans.

"We are afraid of the consequences in the future when our ability as financing institutions will become limited," he said.

The group granted soft loans worth more than \$25 billion to developing countries in the past 13 years.

## G-7 ministers may meet shortly, says Lawson

LONDON, Jan 16 (Reuters): Finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven industrial nations may meet in the next few weeks, British Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson told Parliament on Thursday, according to the Wall Street Journal.

Lawson, who said such a meeting would have "a low profile," made his comments as West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg met with US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady and other top US officials.

Co-operation among the G-7 nations in stabilising foreign-exchange rates was discussed when Stoltenberg met US Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan on Wednesday, West German sources said.

Stoltenberg was preceded in Washington on Tuesday by Lawson, who told Parliament on Thursday he was sure after his talks with Brady that the Bush administration will continue to encourage international co-operation.

### Speculation

There has been recurrent speculation over the possibility of a G-7 meeting some time soon after the inauguration of President-elect George Bush on Jan 20.

Chancellor Lawson previously indicated that he would be willing to participate in a G-7 meeting as long as the new US administration had something to say. But he warned in an interview on Jan 3 that if a meeting is called "it should be understood by the markets that no visible outcome is to be expected, nor is there any crisis requiring one."

The G-7 groups the US, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada and provides a forum for talks on co-ordinating economic policy.

### Reaction

Economists say one current danger is that of the possibility of a chain reaction of interest rate rises around the world that could crimp economic expansion and frighten stock markets.

They say that, if rates are taken higher in the US in efforts to damp inflationary pressures there, more money is likely to flow to interest-bearing US assets, which would drive the dollar up in value.

Other nations, particularly West Germany, worried about an outflow of funds, might raise their rates, too.

Lawson also set March 14 as the date when he will present Britain's annual budget.

## Plan to boost gasoline prices

TOKYO, Jan 16 (OPECNA): Japan intends to increase the wholesale prices of gasoline and other petroleum products in February, according to oil sources here.

The sources said that Japan's decision to increase oil prices was to be attributed to the OPEC agreement limiting the overall output of its 13 member countries to 18.50 million BPD for the first half 1989.

They added that the oil price increase might lead to a rise in gasoline prices of up to three per cent.

### Customers

OPEC member countries Kuwait and Saudi Arabia have already informed Japanese customers of the increase in their crude oil prices.

Non-OPEC oil producers Oman and Mexico are also said to have informed Japanese companies of increases ranging between \$2.08 and 2.17 per barrel per crude exported in December.

According to the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), oil market indicators point out that oil prices have surged by \$4 per barrel since November and show no signs of a possible drop.

## Expert sees firm oil prices through March

KUWAIT, Jan 16 (Reuters): An international energy expert has predicted OPEC will keep world oil prices rising until March but may face problems after that because of output quota violations and high production last year.

"There will be a relative increase in the next two to three months, until March," Robert Mabro, director of the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, said last night in a lecture to the Kuwait Economic Society.

But he said the outlook thereafter depended on how much oil was produced by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) during the last quarter of 1988.

He also predicted production discipline in the 13-nation organisation would eventually break down, putting pressure on world oil prices later this year.

Oil prices have firmed about

\$3 a barrel since OPEC agreed last November to cut output to 18.5 million barrels per day (BPD) in the first half of this year. But prices are still about three dollars below OPEC's target of \$18.

Industry sources polled by Reuters put OPEC output in the last quarter of 1988 at 22.5 million BPD, well above a self-imposed output ceiling then in force of 15.06 million BPD excluding Iraq.

"If production (in the 1988 fourth quarter) was an average of 21.5 million to 23 million BPD... then prices must decline again (after March). If there was exaggeration in these figures... maybe there will be a balance between supply and demand and prices will remain relatively high," he said.

Mabro said long-term prospects for output discipline within

OPEC were weak because it contained blocs of producers with different interests and because of individual quota disputes.

"Maybe the price will reach \$18. Maybe it will hit 20. But I am pessimistic on the continuation of price stability at the level OPEC wants in the long run," he said.

### Stability

"Maybe the (current OPEC) agreement will succeed for three, four or six months, but the continuation of price stability for a long time is not likely."

Mabro said OPEC's problems could not be blamed on its declining share of world oil production. "The share of OPEC is now simply sufficient to control the market as it wants... on condition that it acts as a single bloc," he said.

Rising output from independent producers halved OPEC's share of world oil production

from 1967 to 1987 to around 30 per cent. But OPEC still accounts for more than half the world's oil exports.

Meanwhile, the Middle East Economic Digest reported that six members of the OPEC, five of them Gulf states, now have 70.5 per cent of the world's proven oil reserves.

The respected oil industry newsletter said that, according to revised estimates, the total reserves of "big six" reserves in the last five years has been 308 billion barrels to a total of 699 billion barrels.

These countries — Saudi Arabia, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Iran and Venezuela — now account for 77 per cent of the non-communist world's oil reserves, the weekly said.

It listed Saudi Arabia with 255 billion barrels, Iraq with 100 billion, the UAE with 98 billion,

Kuwait with 95 billion, Iran with 93 billion and Venezuela with 58 billion.

The five Gulf states alone account for nearly two-thirds of the world's proven reserves.

### Upgraded

Saudi Arabia last week upgraded its reserves by 85 billion barrels to 255 billion following a six-year study.

The Arabian American Oil Co., announcing the new reserves on Jan 10, noted that with additional development and exploration their "remaining reserves could be as high as 313 billion barrels of oil."

Describing the Saudi revision as "a staggering increase," the Nicosia-based MEED noted: "The reassessment of reserves in Saudi Arabia represents the latest stage of a truly massive upward revision of proven oil reserves by the major OPEC countries in recent years."

Perez promises to reverse decline in living standards

## Technocrats to set economic policy

CARACAS, Jan 16 (Reuters): President-elect Carlos Andres Perez announced the members of his cabinet yesterday, placing most key economic posts in the hands of US-trained technocrats rather than party regulars.

Speaking at a news conference where he was flanked by the members of the incoming administration, Perez said he decided to name his ministers early so they can "advance their knowledge of certain urgent matters... that must be dealt with as a matter of priority."

### Promised

Perez, who takes office on Feb 2, has promised to reverse the decline in living standards in South America's richest country, brought on by falling prices for its principal export, oil.

He has also promised to take a harder stance on repaying Venezuela's \$32 billion foreign debt, Latin America's fourth largest.

Perez named Egilso Turbe de Blanco as finance minister replacing Hector Hurtado, who is currently in the United States

holding talks with creditor banks to pave the way for a new debt rescheduling.

Turbe, 45, has been deputy finance minister since last Aug 4, often taking over for Hurtado during his trips abroad to seek new credits.

### Plan

She told reporters after the appointments were announced that the government would put into effect a medium-term economic plan that would require both debt rescheduling and obtaining new financing for development programmes.

Turbe said the reaction of creditor banks to Venezuelan proposals had been "very positive" so far, but she gave no details.

Prior to joining the Finance Ministry, Turbe was president of the Banco Republica, a state-owned commercial bank, and also served in the Planning Ministry and as director general of the Foreign Trade Institute.

Perez named Moises Naim, a 36-year-old economist trained at the Massachusetts Institute of

Technology, as development minister. Naim, a relative outsider in Venezuelan politics, was formerly director of the Institute of Development Studies, a leading business school here.

The youngest cabinet member will be Miguel Rodriguez, 35, who will become planning minister. He also was trained in the United States, receiving a doctorate in economics from Yale University.

Rodriguez recently spent 18 months as a researcher at the Institute for International Economics in Washington. He has recently accompanied government missions that met officials of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and private creditor banks.

### Loyalist

Heading the Ministry of Energy and Mines will be Celestino Armas, a congressman and Perez loyalist who currently heads the Chamber of Deputies' energy and mines committee.

Energy and mines is one of the most important cabinet posts in Venezuela, which depends on oil

for more than 80 per cent of its export earnings.

Armas, who received a graduate engineering degree from the University of Colorado, will succeed Julio Cesar Gil, who has been praised by OPEC colleagues for his role in forging a production agreement at the organisation's November conference.

Armas has often been a member of Venezuelan delegations to meetings of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

### Differences

Both Armas and Perez have expressed differences with the state oil company Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A. They want to halt its programme of investing in foreign refineries to assure markets for the country's crude oil.

Other cabinet appointments include Enrique Tejera Paris as foreign minister. Tejera Paris, 69, formerly served as Venezuela's ambassador to the United States and to the Organisation of American States.

## Trade group announces plans for advanced television

NEW YORK, Jan 16 (AP): Sixteen US electronics companies have agreed to study the feasibility of creating a corporate partnership that would develop the next generation of televisions, a trade group says.

The partnership would be a potential, profit-making organisation that would work with the federal government on research leading to the manufacture of high-definition TV sets, the American Electronics Association said on Thursday.

The partnership might even do its own manufacturing of components, such as picture tubes, said spokesman John Hatch.

The trade group argues that the United States cannot afford to be left behind by the Japanese in the next generation of bright, sharp televisions, which will be packed with sophisticated electronics.

### Market

"Given the unlikelihood of an individual US company risking entering this evolving new market, the action is a logical and practical next step for the industry," Pat Hill Hubbard, the group's vice-president for science and technology policy, said in a statement.

Some analysts have expressed scepticism about the potential for success of such a partnership, and some of the companies that agreed to do the feasibility study said they were not necessarily committed to participating in a partnership.

Acknowledging the obstacles, Hubbard said in an interview, "there's not been a soul who's encouraged me personally or area in general on doing this. There's been nothing but nay-sayers."

Asked if she was optimistic about the chances for a partnership, she said, "optimistic is too elevated a word. This is a logical next step."

Government under pressures to raise or lower living standards

## Poland facing high inflation, fears of unrest

WARSAW, Jan 16 (Reuters): The Polish government, facing high inflation and fears of unrest, is under conflicting pressures to raise or lower living standards in 1989, Finance Minister Andrzej Wroblewski said in an interview.

He told Reuters at the weekend the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was pressing Warsaw to lower living standards by about 10 per cent this year and speed up efforts to balance the economy.

But Wroblewski said the government was also "under tremendous social pressure to increase living standards and return at least to the level of 1978."

Opposition economists calculate that per capita income in 1988 was still 13 per cent below 1978, Poland's best year before the crash of the late 1970s and early 1980s.

He estimated 1988 inflation at 60-70 per cent compared with 26 per cent in 1987 and said the 1989 target was 55 per cent, but did not indicate how this reduction would be achieved.

Wroblewski indicated Poland was unlikely to meet IMF conditions but said Poland hoped for an agreement with the Fund in 1989 which would allow normalisation of relations with the Paris Club of creditor states and new World Bank credits.

The country's current political atmosphere, with the government edging to an accord with the banned Solidarity trade union, was a favourable factor, he said.

"Our assessment is that the only realistic thing under current conditioning is to maintain existing standards while improving economic growth," he said.

An IMF mission was due in Poland within six weeks and Wroblewski hoped that formal talks for IMF approval for the government's economic adjustment programme would open soon.

Wroblewski said despite improved exports Poland was

still able to pay only about half the annual interest on its \$37.9 billion foreign debt which was growing.

"At the moment we are repaying \$1.7 to \$2 billion annually. It is only about half of our obligations. We should pay \$3.5 to \$4 billion a year," he said.

"In 1988 we paid a total sum of \$1.75 billion and our obligations to commercial banks are fully covered."

He said Poland would like to work out an overall agreement with the Paris Club that would regulate repayment conditions over a number of years and give the government a clear idea of its obligations.

market "celebrated" the first anniversary of the crash.

The market's biggest concern of the year was the rise in interest rates. When the feared recession failed to materialise the focus shifted to an economy that showed signs of overheating and one subject to inflationary pressures.

The prime rate rose four times during the year to its current 10.5 per cent. The Federal Reserve boosted the discount rate in early August to 6.5 per cent from six per cent, the highest level since July 1986.

Eugene Peroni Jr., chief technical analyst at Janney Montgomery Scott Inc. said that despite the obvious tightening by the Fed the market was impressed and comforted by the performance of chairman Alan Greenspan.

## World Business Summary

### Foreign trade must be privatised: Khamenei

NICOSIA, Jan 16 (Reuters): Iranian President Ali Khamenei said foreign trade must be privatised now that the war with Iraq is over, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported last week. The private sector's share in imports was limited to 20 per cent during recent years. Non-military imports were worth \$12.76 billion in the last Iranian year ended March 20. "Under normal conditions there is no need for the government to carry the heavy burden of buying and selling," IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Khamenei as telling commerce ministry staff. Khamenei said the government had unlimited authority during the war, but in normal times the commerce ministry should revert to its proper role of a supervisory body overseeing trading practices. Import restrictions on several dozen items have been lifted since November on the orders of a senior policy-making body set up to formulate Iran's post-war reconstruction. But Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi has made clear he is opposed to any major change in the government's tight control on foreign trade despite strong criticism by the private sector. The Resalat paper said in October that the government's trade policy had led to results completely opposed to its stated aim of preventing the enrichment of merchants at the expense of the poor. It said the policy had caused widespread waste and corruption and was responsible for the jump in the number of Iranian multi-billionaires to 900 from 63 or 64 a decade ago. The government's handling of import trade is based on laws passed by the Revolutionary Council which ruled Iran by decree immediately after the 1979 Islamic revolution.

### AT-and-T expected to join bid for GEC, says study

LONDON, Jan 16 (AP): American Telephone and Telegraph Co. is expected to take part in a planned consortium bid for General Electric Co. PLC of Britain, a respected financial daily reported today. Analysts said, however, that GEC's defences against a consortium takeover bid was strengthened by its announcement Friday of a merger with the US-based General Electric Co. of their European consumer products, medical equipment and some electrical divisions. The Financial Times reported that AT-and-T was expected to confirm its participation in the dramatic bid for GEC this week following weekend negotiations with Lazard Brothers investment firm. The Financial Times and other newspapers also reported that the British electronics firm Plessey Co. PLC made a bid to acquire GPT, an electronics company it jointly owns with GEC, citing a broken agreement between the two companies. GEC, which itself has made a \$3 billion bid with West Germany's Siemens AG for Plessey, said it would fight to keep its share of GPT, reports in the Guardian and Financial Times said. The financial daily said that under a deal with the consortium, AT-and-T would take a controlling stake in GPT. It said AT-and-T would announce its participation after a board meeting Wednesday in New York. In the United States, AT-and-T spokesman Walter Murphy declined to comment on the reports. Lazard Brothers is the merchant bank adviser to Plessey, which also has been reported to be a member of the consortium bidding for GEC, along with the French company Thomson.

Political leaders urged to adopt drastic austerity measures

MOSCOW, Jan 16 (Reuters): The Soviet government, painting a grim picture of the national economy in a report published today, called on industry and local political leaders to adopt drastic austerity measures. Although the economy grew 4.4 per cent in 1988, faster than in previous years, farms and factories were not producing enough goods to satisfy growing incomes and much of what they did produce was still of low quality, a government statement said. Pay is growing faster than productivity, in what economists say appears to raise the prospect of inflation which has finally been officially acknowledged as a problem. In addition, new technology is being introduced too slowly. Other figures published this weekend showed that exports fell by two per cent last year and imports rose by 6.5 per cent, virtually halving the Soviet trade surplus. Judging by the report, part of this worsening may have been due to the import of 30 billion roubles (\$50 billion) worth of food in the last three years. Officials have also pointed to harm through a fall in the price of oil, a key Soviet export. The new report, issued after a government meeting yesterday, followed fears expressed by Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev that the failure of economic reforms to bring concrete results could weaken support for his parallel political reforms. Last week, Gorbachev warned in a speech of the political dangers of a budget deficit caused by a mixture of neglect, heavy defence spending, lower revenue from state alcohol sales and the devastating Armenian earthquake last month.

### Petroleum industry gets a boost

RIYADH, Jan 16 (OPECNA): Research projects conducted by Saudi Arabia's King Abdul Aziz University for Science and Technology over the years have strengthened the kingdom's petroleum and petrochemical operations, it was stated here. Riyadh city's president Dr Saleh Abdul Rahman Al Athel said that \$6 schemes costing a total of \$5.87 million had been carried out dealing with petroleum, petrochemicals and pollution. He said that projects, which were among 237 conducted by the university at a cost of \$53.40 million, had greatly enhanced the kingdom's technical capabilities and boosted its industrial potential. Al Athel said that the university had also organised scientific seminars, provided financial assistance for research in other Saudi Arabian universities and extended technical assistance to the productive sectors. In addition, it had set up national laboratories for petroleum, petrochemicals and energy, he said. He added that the university was supervising the work of a national scientific committee, set up by the government to study the latest scientific methods being utilised in the petroleum and gas industries. Al Athel disclosed that the city was planning to organise a workshop on petrochemical industries.

WANTED

Used compressors  
80-120 cfm  
Screw type  
preferable.  
Call: 2406488  
between 8:00 am -  
12:30 pm and 4:00  
- 7:30 pm

WANTED

Indian labourers  
(men)  
For a food factory  
Contact:  
Shayya & Shariff Inc.  
Sharq Industrial Area  
Behind Babbanah Area  
Showroom  
between 8:00 am and 1:00 pm  
only  
Bring along passport copies.

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EXPERIENCED

FEMALE TYPIST

With knowledge of shorthand, telex, word-processor and other office routine.  
The applicant must have experience of minimum 3 years with a transferable work permit.  
Apply with your contact telephone number to:  
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13022 Kuwait.



## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1989

LONDON  
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	200.0
ABBEY LFE	301.0	210/0
ADT LTD	127.0	277/0
ADL LYONS	460.0	444.0
AMSTRAD	163.0	547/0
ARGYLL GP	178/0	
ASDA GP	137.0	
BAA	277.0	
BTR	314/0	
BAT INOS	444.0	
BARCLAYS	429.0	
BASS	867.0	
BEAZER	186.0	
BECHTEL	499.5	
BEISFORD	405/0	
BICC PLC	411/0	
BLUE ARW	89/4	
BLUE CIRC	462.0	
BOC GP	431/0	
BOOTS CO	235.0	
BPS INDS	35.76	
BR CONN	222.0	
BR ATWAY	171/0	
BR AEROSP	472/0	
BR GAS RG	159/0	
BR GAS RT		
BR LAND	347/0	
B.P.	258/0	
B.P. PP	156.0	
BR TELCON	267/0	
BURNHAM OL	493.0	
BURTON	180/0	
CACTHUS	377/0	
CADURYPS	347/0	
CALOR GRP	375/0	
CLINTON	697/0	
CLINTON T	697/0	
COOKSON	271.0	
COURTAULD	284.0	
DALGETY	313/0	
DIXONS	132/0	
ENG CHINA	462.0	
ENTER OIL	510.0	
FKI BACK	130.0	
FERRANTI	106.0	
FISONS	249/0	
GATEWAY	168.5	
GEN ACCIO	893/0	
GEN ELEC	213/0	
GLAXO	065/0	
GRANADA	342/0	
GLOBE	145.0	
GLYNED	276/4	
GUARD RYL	187/4	
GKN	313/0	
GUINNESS	340.0	
HANSON	159/0	
HARRISON C	655/0	
HUKER SID	570.0	
HILLSDOWN	245/0	
ICI	072/0	

LONDON  
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	LAST	200.0
1ST CHARL	12/0	12/0
1ST LEISER	152/0	152/0
1ST NAT F	247/0	241/0
1ST SCOT	389/0	388/0
2ND ALLCE	750/0	749/0
600 GROUP	112/0	112/0
A-AMER TR	375/0	378/0
A-S-ELECT	364/0	364/0
A-S-W.HLD	195/0	195/0
AAB KENT	87/0	86/0
AAR HLD	294/0	291/0
AARSON	116/0	116/0
ADISON	31/0	31/0
ADVEST	159/0	159/0
ALEX WRM	159/0	159/0
ALEXON	321/0	321/0
ALD TALL	126/0	126/0
ALD IR B	245/0	245/0
ALD LDN	129/0	130/0
ALD PLINT	66/0	66/0
ALLIANCE	858/0	858/0
AMBER DAY	40/0	40/0
AMEC	339/0	339/0
AMER TST	129/2	129/0
AMERSHAM	509/0	509/0
ANI HLTCN	257/0	257/0
ANGIA TV	209/0	209/0
ANGLO O'S	225/4	225/0
ANSCHER	78/0	78/0
APPLEYARD	304/0	309/0
APV PLC	133/0	135/0
AQUAS A	69/0	70/0
ARAN ENJ	61/0	62/0
ARCHER AJ	134/0	133/0
ARLINGTON	153/0	153/0
ARMSTRONG	137/0	
ASHLEY GP	73/0	73/0
ASHLEY LA	100/0	100/0
AUS REE A	217/0	217/0
AUT REED	363/0	365/0
AUTO SECS	238/0	238/0
AVDEL PLC	94/4	98/0
AVESCO	117/0	116/0
AVIS EUR	322/0	323/0
AVON RUBB	601/0	600/0
B. MENWILL	205/0	205/0
BAILL JAP	520/0	520/0
BAILL SHI	87/4	87/0
BANK IR	221/0	221/0
BANK IRE	234/0	234/0
BANKER IT	74/4	75/0
BARDON GP	154/0	153/0
BART DEV	177/0	177/0
BAYNES C	26/0	27/0
BBA GROUP	161/0	162/0
BEAR BRN	1/6	2/0
BEATTIE J	150/0	151/0
BEJAN GP	169/0	169/0
BELHAVEN	47/0	48/0
BELLWAY	221/0	221/0

## World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-YR
FT 30 IND	1525.1	1519.7	1511.9	1455.3
FT 500 SHR	1048.0	1048.0	1041.7	1008.8
FT ALL SHR	961.80	961.80	955.57	926.59
FT GOV SEC	87.01	87.01	87.05	87.03
FT MDL MN	163.9	163.9	163.8	161.9
FT NIMES F	590.05	590.05	582.89	565.31
FT OIL	1788.5	1788.5	1786.4	1725.4
FT MDL DLR	142.98	142.98	142.27	139.21
FT MDL STG	119.09	118.63	118.43	115.30
FT MDL LOC	127.51	127.04	126.59	123.40

## London Stock Market Report

## U.K. STOCKS FIRM BUT OFF HIGHS IN LATE TRADE

LONDON, JAN 16, REUTER - EQUITIES WERE OFF THE HIGHS REACHED JUST BEFORE MIDDAY IN LATE TRADING, WITH LOW VOLUME AND PROFIT-TAKING COMBINING TO LIMIT THE GAINS, DEALERS SAID. SHARES BEGAN THE ACCOUNT FIRMER AFTER THE RISE SEEN HERE AND IN OTHER WORLD STOCK MARKETS RECENTLY AND AFTER A SURVEY BY THE CONFEDERATION OF BRITISH INDUSTRY SHOWED U.K. RETAILERS EXPECT A SLOWDOWN IN SALES GROWTH IN JANUARY. THEY TOUCHED A PEAK AFTER DECEMBER U.K. RETAIL SALES FIGURES THIS MORNING APPEARED TO CONFIRM THE SURVEY WITH A FALL, AFTER FORECASTS OF A RISE.

ON 1540 GMT THE FTSE 100 WAS UP 8.4 AT 1,870.5. SHARES STAGED A SHORT-LIVED RALLY IN RESPONSE TO NEWS U.K. RETAIL SALES FOR DECEMBER FELL A PROVISIONAL 0.1 PCT, INDICATING THAT THE STRING OF U.K. INTEREST RATE RISES SINCE THE SUMMER IS HAVING THE DESIRED EFFECT OF DAMPENING CONSUMER DEMAND. MANY CITY ANALYSTS HAD BEEN ANTICIPATING DECEMBER RETAIL SALES WOULD SHOW A RISE OF UP TO 0.6 PCT, COMPARED TO A FALL OF THE SAME SIZE IN NOVEMBER.

IAN HARWOOD, CHIEF ECONOMIST AT MORGAN SECURITIES, SAID THE DECEMBER CONTRACTION IN RETAIL SALES WAS "CONTRIBUTING TO THE PERCEPTION THAT 13 PCT MIGHT BE THE PEAK OF THE CURRENT INTEREST RATE CYCLE". U.K. BASE LENDING RATES ARE NOW 13 PCT.

## London Gold

LONDON, JAN 16, REUTER - GOLD BULLION TRADING REMAINED QUIET IN THE AFTERNOON FIXING SESSION AS PROFESSIONALS CONTINUED TO WATCH THE DOLLAR.

GOLD WAS FIXED AT 401.50 DLS AN OUNCE COMPARED WITH THE OPENING OF 400.50/401.00 AND PREVIOUS CLUSE OF 405.50/406.00 DLS AND DOWN 25 CENTS FROM THE MORNING FIX. DEALERS SAID SENTIMENT REMAINED BEARISH AS THE DOLLAR MOVED HIGHER, TESTING THE 1.86 MARK LEVEL, BUT A SMALL RALLY WAS SEEN EARLIER AS MIDDLE EAST BUYING PUSHED THE PRICE UP TO AROUND 402.00 DLS. GOLD IS EXPECTED TO REMAIN ABOVE THE PSYCHOLOGICAL 400 SUPPORT LEVEL FOR THE REST OF THE DAY, THEY ADDED.

## London Money Market

LONDON, JAN 16, REUTER - MONEY RATES ENDED THE SESSION LOWER AFTER U.K. RETAIL SALES DATA SHOWED A SLOWING OF SALES IN DECEMBER. THE KEY THREE MONTH INTERBANK WAS 1/8 LOWER AT 13-1/8 PCT.

RETAIL SALES FELL BY 0.1 PCT IN DECEMBER AFTER A RISE OF 0.6 PCT WAS FORECAST. DEALERS SAID THAT IT APPEARS TIGHT MONETARY POLICY IS BEGINNING TO RESTRAIN CONSUMER DEMAND. TRADERS REMAIN CAUTIOUS WITH FURTHER U.K. ECONOMIC DATA DUE LATER THIS WEEK. EARNINGS AND MONEY SUPPLY FIGURES ARE KEENLY AWAITED, AS INDICATORS OF INFLATIONARY PRESSURE AT A TIME WHEN CURBING INFLATION IS THE GOVERNMENT'S EXPRESSED MAIN OBJECTIVE.

## Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPN
DLR	1.7610/20	1.8555/60	6.3215/35	NOON
STG	1.7615/25	3.2595/273	11.1310/1445	NOON
DMK	1.138/156	340.57/341.2	29.255/415	NOON
FFR	1.5823/5833	2.7868/7901	85.29/39	1300
ECU	2.0920	3.6920	25.03/06	1300
ECU	1.12436	0.6384/0	33.115	CLSE
SDR	1.32249	0.746886	2.08572	CLSE
YEN	127.65/75	224.67/99	8.29761	NOON
SDR RATE	13/01/1989	OTHERS	16/01/1989	

LONDON  
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	LAST	200.0
1ST CHARL	12/0	12/0
1ST LEISER	152/0	152/0
1ST NAT F	247/0	241/0
1ST SCOT	389/0	388/0
2ND ALLCE	750/0	749/0
600 GROUP	112/0	112/0
A-AMER TR	375/0	378/0
A-S-ELECT	364/0	364/0
A-S-W.HLD	195/0	195/0
AAB KENT	87/0	86/0
AAR HLD	294/0	291/0
AARSON	116/0	116/0
ADISON	31/0	31/0
ADVEST	159/0	159/0
ALEX WRM	159/0	159/0
ALEXON	321/0	321/0
ALD TALL	126/0	126/0
ALD IR B	245/0	245/0
ALD LDN	129/0	130/0
ALD PLINT	66/0	66/0
ALLIANCE	858/0	858/0
AMBER DAY	40/0	40/0
AMEC	339/0	339/0
AMER TST	129/2	129/0
AMERSHAM	509/0	509/0
ANI HLTCN	257/0	257/0
ANGIA TV	209/0	209/0
ANGLO O'S	225/4	225/0
ANSCHER	78/0	78/0
APPLEYARD	304/0	309/0
APV PLC	133/0	135/0
AQUAS A	69/0	70/0
ARAN ENJ	61/0	62/0
ARCHER AJ	134/0	133/0
ARLINGTON	153/0	153/0
ARMSTRONG	137/0	
ASHLEY GP	73/0	73/0
ASHLEY LA	100/0	100/0
AUS REE A	217/0	217/0
AUT REED	363/0	365/0
AUTO SECS	238/0	238/0
AVDEL PLC	94/4	98/0
AVESCO	117/0	116/0
AVIS EUR	322/0	323/0
AVON RUBB	601/0	600/0
B. MENWILL	205/0	205/0
BAILL JAP	520/0	520/0
BAILL SHI	87/4	87/0
BANK IR	221/0	221/0
BANK IRE	234/0	234/0
BANKER IT	74/4	75/0
BARDON GP	154/0	153/0
BART DEV	177/0	177/0
BAYNES C	26/0	27/0
BBA GROUP	161/0	162/0
BEAR BRN	1/6	2/0
BEATTIE J	150/0	151/0
BEJAN GP	169/0	169/0
BELHAVEN	47/0	48/0
BELLWAY	221/0	221/0

LONDON  
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	LAST	200.0
1ST CHARL	12/0	12/0
1ST LEISER	152/0	152/0
1ST NAT F	247/0	241/0
1ST SCOT	389/0	388/0
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A-S-ELECT	364/0	364/0
A-S-W.HLD	195/0	195/0
AAB KENT	87/0	86/0
AAR HLD	294/0	291/0
AARSON	116/0	116/0
ADISON	31/0	31/0
ADVEST	159/0	159/0
ALEX WRM	159/0	159/0
ALEXON	321/0	321/0
ALD TALL	126/0	126/0
ALD IR B	245/0	245/0
ALD LDN	129/0	130/0
ALD PLINT	66/0	66/0
ALLIANCE	858/0	858/0
AMBER DAY	40/0	40/0
AMEC	339/0	339/0
AMER TST	129/2	129/0
AMERSHAM	509/0	509/0
ANI HLTCN	257/0	257/0
ANGIA TV	209/0	209/0
ANGLO O'S	225/4	225/0
ANSCHER	78/0	78/0
APPLEYARD	304/0	309/0
APV PLC	133/0	135/0
AQUAS A	69/0	70/0
ARAN ENJ	61/0	62/0
ARCHER AJ	134/0	133/0
ARLINGTON	153/0	153/0
ARMSTRONG	137/0	
ASHLEY GP	73/0	73/0
ASHLEY LA	100/0	100/0
AUS REE A	217/0	217/0
AUT REED	363/0	365/0
AUTO SECS	238/0	238/0
AVDEL PLC	94/4	98/0
AVESCO	117/0	116/0
AVIS EUR	322/0	323/0
AVON RUBB	601/0	600/0
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BAILL JAP	520/0	520/0
BAILL SHI	87/4	87/0
BANK IR	221/0	221/0
BANK IRE	234/0	234/0
BANKER IT	74/4	75/0
BARDON GP	154/0	153/0
BART DEV	177/0	177/0
BAYNES C	26/0	27/0
BBA GROUP	161/0	162/0
BEAR BRN	1/6	2/0
BEATTIE J	150/0	151/0
BEJAN GP	169/0	169/0
BELHAVEN	47/0	48/0
BELLWAY	221/0	221/0

LONDON  
(Beta Stocks)

00/04	431/0	SALL
00/04	301/4	SALL
00/09	270/0	SAV
00/09	240/0	SAV
00/15	266/0	SCCH
00/20	203/0	SCCH
00/22	215/0	SCCH
00/26	56/0	SCCH
00/26	243/0	SCCH
00/28	138/0	SET
00/28	106/0	SET
00/28	132/0	SET
00/28	99/0	SET
00/35	86/0	SEL
00/44	285/0	SEL
00/46	322/0	SHIM
01/00	11/0	SHIM
01/00	11/0	SHIM
01/00	115/0	SIN
01/00	91/0	SIN
01/05	45/0	SQU
01/00	0/0	SPRR
01/05	35/0	SPRR
01/06	43/0	ST.
01/06	46/0	ST.
01/00	120/0	STE
01/03	134/0	STE
01/03	127/0	STG
01/10	390/0	STOR
01/08	110/0	STOR
01/05	276/0	T.
01/08	278/0	TEL
01/05	475/0	TEL
01/05	225/0	YEL
01/04	376/0	THOR
01/05	145/0	THOR
01/05	266/0	THOR
01/07	208/0	TI
01/00	122/0	TIME
01/06	156/0	TIME
01/00	351/0	TIPH
01/00	126/0	TOON
01/00	52/4	TOZ
01/10	192/0	TR
01/00	472/0	TR
01/04	247/0	TR
01/00	274/0	TR
01/00	270/0	TR
01/00	244/0	TRSP
01/08	198/0	TURB
01/07	88/0	TV
01/00	210/0	TYS
01/07	198/0	U-B
01/00	156/0	U-B
01/00	83/0	U-C



## International Bond Highlights

**LONDON:** Italy is issuing a one billion lire Eurobond due March 1, 1999 paying 9-5/8 pct and priced at 101-5/8 pct, lead manager J.P. Morgan Securities said. (XLEU 0848) In Rome, bank sources said the issue will be used in part to repay early a 500 mln lire floating rate Eurobond. (XLEU 1130)

**London:** PaineWebber International Inc said it is withdrawing from Eurobond and fixed income trading in London, effective today, with the loss of 22 jobs. (XLEM 1058)

**Brazil:** Brazilian newspapers on Monday highlighted the possibility of Brazil declaring a new debt moratorium. (XLBZ 1538)

**Venezuela:** Austria is to ease or lift some 50 restrictions on long-term capital market transactions abroad from Feb 1. National Bank President Helmut Klause said. (XLEA 1299)

**London:** Swedish export credit is issuing a 150 mln Canadian dollar Eurobond due Dec 28, 1990 paying 12 pct and priced at 101-1/2 pct which can be redeemed in Canadian or US dollars, lead manager Bankers Trust International Ltd said. (XLEK 1109)

**Zurich:** Schweizerische Lebensversicherungs- und Rentenanstalt is issuing a 150 mln Swiss franc convertible bond with an indicated coupon of one pct and indicated par pricing, lead manager Credit Suisse said. (XLFZ 1346)

**London:** Household Finance Corporation Ltd is issuing a 75 mln Canadian dollar Eurobond due Feb 3, 1994 paying 11-1/4 pct and priced at 101-7/8 pct, lead manager Union Bank of Switzerland (Securities) Ltd said. (XLEB 1008)

**Frankfurt:** Dresdner Bank AG said it is issuing a three-year 50 mln New Zealand dollar Eurobond with a 14-1/8 pct coupon priced at 101-5/8 for a subsidiary. (XLEF 1033)

## Currency rates

**KUWAIT, Jan 16, (KUNA):** Following are international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait today.

Buying	Selling
US dollar 0.28370	0.28513
Sterling 0.50158	0.50554

## Interest Rates

D. mark	0.15368	0.15488
S. franc	0.18006	0.18155
F. franc	0.04504	0.04542
It. lira	0.0002095	0.0002109
Jap. yen	0.002155	0.0022531
Bah. din.	0.75232	0.75671
UAE Dh.	0.07724	0.07767
S. riyal	0.075640	0.076070
Q. riyal	0.07790	0.07836
O. riyal	0.73669	0.74089

## Following are the average KD

interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	7-1/8	7-5/8
3 months	7-1/2	8
6 months	7-11/16	8-1/8
1 year	7-13/16	8-1/4

## BOMBAY

PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	75.50	74	75.50	NICO	590	582.50	590
ACC	223	330	327	GRASIN	54.50	54	54	MUKAND	93	92
ASIA PAINT	216.25	213.75	215	GSFC	146.25	147.50	145	ORAY	25.50	26.50
BAJAJ AUTO	398.75	403.75	401.25	IND LEVER	71	70	71	PEICO	25	24
BAR. RAYON	320	320	310	HINDALCO	164	164	166.50	PFIZER	68	67
BOM. DYING	119	119	117	HINDCOBA	103.75	103.75	103.75	PRI. AUTO	45	45.25
BR. BOND	104	103	103	ELDMOTOR	28.25	28.50	28.25	RAYMOND	73	72
BSE INDEX	652.24	642.35	642.35	IND ORG	43	42.50	42.50	RELIANCE	134	134
CENTURYSPG	1330	1332.5	1365	INDORAY	83.50	82.50	83	SIEMENS	84	81
COLGATE	305.75	305	307.50	INDROL	260	262.50	265	SPIC	51	51
DEEPAPERT	42	40	41.50	ITC	288	288	288	STMMILLS	245	240
ET. HOTEL	57.50	53.75	57.50	JYSKINT	83.20	82	83	TATA PWR	360	350
ESKAYE	133.75	135	134.25	L AND I	122	122	123	TATACHEN	106.50	106.50
ESAR	24.75	24.75	23.25	HAHINDA	81	81.50	84	TELCO	702.50	707.50
GE. POLY	85	85	85	HASTERSH	15.75	15.75	15.85	TISCO	1138.7	1146
GE. SHIP	38.25	38.50	38.25	HATHW PL	62.50	60	62	VOLTAS	520	510

## FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
ACC	15.40
ASIA PAINT	18.70
BAJAJ AUTO	18.40
BAR. RAYON	14.70
BOM. DYING	24.70
BR. BOND	3.90
BSE INDEX	2.77
CENTURYSPG	9.90
COLGATE	856.67
DEEPAPERT	5.85
ET. HOTEL	30.00
ESKAYE	11.60
ESAR	7.35
GE. POLY	9.25
GE. SHIP	9.70
HATHW PL	6.75
HASTERSH	6.00
HINDALCO	5.30
HINDCOBA	9.35
HINDORAY	10.60
HINDROL	16.20
HINDULCO	9.05
HINDULCO	13.70
HINDULCO	1.40
HINDULCO	2.22
HINDULCO	13.60
HINDULCO	2.40
HINDULCO	2.70
HINDULCO	20.10
HINDULCO	1.27
HINDULCO	4.35
HINDULCO	1.65
HINDULCO	0.75
HINDULCO	4.10

## HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
C. H. TUNNEL	15.40
CHUNG K	8.70
CHINA GAS	18.40
CHINA L-P	14.70
CHINA MTR	24.70
COSMO PROP	3.90
EVERGOLD	2.77
FAR EAST C	9.90
G. H. ORIENT	44.00
G. H. DEVELOP	9.50
H. S. INDEX	856.67
HANG LUNG	5.85
HONG KONG	30.00
HOW PAR BR	11.60
HK ELEC CO	7.35
HK KOWLOON	9.25
HK LAND CO	9.70
HK SHAN BK	6.75
HK SHAN HT	6.00
HK TELE CO	5.30
HUTCH WHAR	9.35
IND. EQ PAC	10.60
JARDINE M	16.20
KOM. COM	9.05
NEW WORLD	13.70
PAUL Y CON	1.40
REALTY DEV	7.40
S. H. K CO	2.22
S. H. K PROP	13.60
SINE DARY	2.40
STELLUM MFG	2.70
SWIRE PAC	20.10
T. V. B CO	1.27
TAI CHEUNG	4.35
UNION BANK	1.65
WALOCK HARK	0.75
WALOCK MARI	4.10
WORLD INTL	4.40

## Dim prospects for economies of Latin America

**BUENOS AIRES, Jan 16, (UPI):** The economies of Latin American nations, ravaged by inflation and debt, sputtered to a near halt in 1988 and their prospects are just as dim for 1989.

Economic growth rates of the region's big three — Mexico, Brazil and Argentina — failed to match their rise in population, making them poorer in per capita terms.

The countries that managed to get ahead in standard of living were the small and medium-sized — Ecuador, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Colombia and Venezuela.

The political repercussions of the economic fiasco will be immediate — Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Argentina, and Uruguay all hold presidential elections this year.

Opposition left-wing and populist parties in countries that are growing poorer will reap benefits of offering an alternative to disenchanted voters.

In Bolivia and Chile, however, conservative parties supporting the retention of orthodox fiscal practices have at least an even chance of winning the presidency.

**Fostered**

A worse-case scenario, at least from the view of orthodox economists, came true in 1988 in Peru, when two years of rapid economic growth fostered by profligate government spending collapsed. The Andean nation ran out of cash for imports and industries were idled by a lack of spare parts.

Peru's economy suffered a negative growth rate of 8.4 per cent. Its inflation hit a record high of 1,722 per cent, second only to socialist Nicaragua's inflation rate of 20,000 per cent.

Peruvian independent economists fear the economy will plunge downward by another 10 per cent in 1989, creating that country's worst recession since the aftermath of the 1879-1883 war of the Pacific with Chile.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America, based in Santiago, Chile, reported that for Latin America as a whole in 1988 "the per capita Gross Domestic Product fell for the first time

## Jaber to head UN economic body for W. Asia

**UNITED NATIONS, Jan 16, (Reuters):** A former Jordanian Minister of Labour, Tayseer Abdel Jaber, was named yesterday as executive secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), based in Baghdad.

Abdel Jaber, who takes up his post on Feb 1, succeeds Mohammed Said Nabulsi.

Abdel Jaber was Jordan's minister of labour and social development from 1984 to 1985 and has held a number of other senior government positions.

During the past three years he established and managed his

## AMMAN

ALADD COMPANY	OPNG	CLSE
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	1.56	1.56
ARAB BANK	2.05	2.05
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	143.2	145.0
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	4.40	4.30
ARAB INSURANCE	2.44	2.41
ARAB INT. INV/TRAD.	1.05	1.00
ARAB INT. UNION INS	0.95	0.90
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	1.21	1.25
ARAB JOR. INVST/BK	0.60	0.63
ARAB PAPER COM/TRD	2.50	2.45
ARAB PHARMA/MANF.	0.34	0.34
ARAB PHARMA/CHEN	2.34	2.33
ARAB POTASH CO.	0.76	0.75
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.63
BANK OF JORDAN	15.25	15.75
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	30.00	30.00
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25
DAR AL SUHAR PRESS	0.56	0.56
DAR AL SUHAR INV.	2.22	2.20
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.88	0.84
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.56	0.56
GARAGE OWNERS OF	4.60	4.60
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.34	1.30
GENERAL MINING.	1.45	1.45
HIMEX MINERALS	0.75	0.75
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44
IND. WATCH JEMCO	0.67	0.67
INDSTR. DEVLPT BKK	1.62	1.62
INDSTR. COMM/AGR.	1.51	1.53
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75
INTERN. COM/INV	0.13	0.13
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.95	0.92
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
ITEMED/PETRI/CH	1.52	1.55
J. TOUR. SP. COMPLEX	0.79	0.80
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29
JOR. CERAMIC/CIGARET	20.00	19.50
JOR. CERAMIC FACTOR	1.70	1.68
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01	25.05
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.69	1.71
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.00	1.00
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50	2.30
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	2.58	2.57
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.62	0.65
JOR LIM BRICK	0.22	0.23
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.66	2.65
JOR PAPER CARDBRIDGE	3.60	3.50
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	3.70	3.70
JOR PIPES MANUFACT.	1.50	1.50
JOR PRESS/PUBLISN.	1.90	1.90
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.40
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	0.93	0.97
JOR SECURITY CORP.	0.92	0.97
JOR SELPHO CHEM.	2.77	2.79
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.54	1.54
JOR WORSTED MLL	5.00	5.00
JOR. KUMAY AGR.	0.94	0.91
JOR. PETROLIUM REF	8.63	8.63
JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.45	5.45
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP.	2.45	2.45
JORDANIAN GULF REAL	0.40	0.42
JORDAN DAIRY	1.02	1.02
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.22	1.23
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
JORDAN INSURANCE	13.85	13.90
JORDAN ISLAMIC BKK	1.85	1.82
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.48	1.48
JORDAN TANNING	2.15	2.15
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.74	0.71
MACH/ENG/RENT/MATN	0.78	0.77
MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.73
MID EAST EXCHANGE	1.12	1.09
MIDDEL EAST HOTEL	0.80	0.80
MIDDEL EAST INS	1.05	1.10
MINERALS RESEARCH	0.74	0.75
NAT. FIN. INVEST CO	1.26	1.29
NAT/CABLE/PHONE/INF	1.26	1.29
NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.38	1.38
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.46	0.45
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.85	0.84
NATIONAL STEEL	2.95	2.96
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
PETRA BANK	2.36	2.32
PETRA JOR. INS.	0.35	0.35
PHILADELPHIA INS.	1.08	1.05
RAPIA INDUSTRIAL	0.86	0.82
REAL ESTATE INV.	0.65	0.66
SHIPPING LINES	0.94	0.93
SPINNING WEAVING	0.94	0.95
THE HOUSING BANK	1.90	1.90
UNITED INSURANCE	1.25	1.20
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	3.06	3.05
UNIVERSAL INS.	0.69	0.69
WADEN INDUSTRIES	0.86	0.85
YARMOUK INSURANCE	1.35	1.31

## PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	71.00	71.50	73.00
STOCK	13.00	13.25	13.00	LC-A	.49	.50	.49
AC-A	2.75	2.80	2.75	LC-B	.50	.51	.50
ANS	32.50	33.00	33.00	PK-A	.38	.39	.39
GLO	243.00	244.00	257.00	PK-B	.39	.40	.40
PLDT	2.48	2.50		IX-B	.016	.017	.016
KPSI-A	148.00	149.00	148.00	BP-A	.016	.017	.017
KPSI-B	232.00	233.00	234.00	LC-A	.0036	.0038	.0036
SHC-A				LC-B	.0038	.0042	.0038
MINING				OP-A	.037	.038	.037
APX-A	.022	.023	.023	OP-B	.039	.04	.04
APX-B	.023	.024	.023	OV-A	.03	.031	.031
AT-A	38.00	38.50	37.50	OV-B	.031	.032	.032
AT-B	39.00	39.50	38.50	TA	.022	.023	.022

OFFICIAL INFORMATION	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
SECTOR	369,560	20,879,240	956.09	13.64 UP
COMM.-IND.	110,371,900	65,122,325	4,918.18	34.25 UP
MINING	179,350,000	44,885,950	2,505.81	UNCHANGED
TOTAL	290,091,460	90,487,515	842.85	6.71 UP

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	71.50	72.00	72.00
STOCK	147.00	148.00	147.00	BC-B	91.00		
SWC-A	234.00	234.00	234.00	LC-A	.49	.50	.49
SD-TIRE	35.50	36.50	36.00	LC-B	.50	.51	.50
PLDT	243.00	244.00	239.00	ZIP	.0085	.009	.009
ANSOR-A	2.80	2.85	2.75	IX-B	.016	.017	.017
AC-A	13.00	13.25	13.00	BP-A	.015	.016	.017
GLO	32.50	33.00		BP-B	.016	.017	.017
FER-A	2.30	2.32	2.32	LC-A	.0038	.004	.004
FER-B	2.44	2.46	2.44	LC-B	.0038	.0042	.0042
MINING				OP-A	.037	.038	.037
STOCK	.022	.023	.022	OP-B	.039	.04	.04
APX-A	.023	.024	.023	OV-A	.03	.031	.031
APX-B	.023	.024	.023	OV-B	.031	.032	.032
AT-A	38.00	38.50	37.50	TA	.022	.023	.022
AT-B	39.00	39.50	38.50				



## Oil prices edge higher

## Dollar hits 3-month high, gold sinks

LONDON, Jan 16, (Reuters): The dollar hit a three-month high today amid signs other nations are tolerating a stronger US currency even though it may push up their import bills.

It finished the day in London more than 2-1/2 pence up on its Friday close, supported by remarks on Friday by West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg.

He said current values — up more than 4.5 per cent against the mark since the start of the year — were acceptable to the Group of Seven industrial powers.

Speculative money has flowed to dollars because high US interest rates offer a good return on many dollar assets.

**Comments**  
Stoltenberg's comments were yet another free meal ticket for dollar speculators to buy dollars," said Steve Kelleher, a senior corporate adviser at Chemical Bank in London.

The dollar rose to end in London worth 1.8580 marks, after Friday's 1.83, and at 128.25 yen after 126.73.

"We could reach 1.88 marks by Wednesday," a Frankfurt dealer said. "But it's gone up too fast... next week it might correct four or five pence," she added.

Dealers also said trading was thin today because of a Japanese holiday and partial US holiday and caution ahead of November

US trade figures on Wednesday. Bad figures could focus attention on US external deficits and hit the dollar.

In New York, Wall Street stocks were firm by midday, but Oppenheimer analyst Michael Metz and others said there was little meaning to the market's narrow moves.

US bond and currency markets were closed. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up five points at 2,231 points.

**High**  
The FTSE index of 100 blue chips rose to 1,877.1 points at one stage in trading before closing up 9.7 points at 1,871.8. Its post-crash closing high was 1,879.3.

The market was mainly bolstered by a surprise fall in retail sales for December. "Christmas shoppers have been much more frugal than expected," said Leo Doyle, an economist with broker Kleinwort Greaves Securities.

Economists said the sales figures eased pressure on Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson to push interest rates higher to pinch an inflationary spending boom. Rates have been raised nine times from 7.5 per cent in June to 13 per cent now.

Gold was down \$4 from Friday at \$401.50 an ounce when set for the afternoon in London market.

The benchmark 30-year US Treasury bond traded at 101-2/

32 yielding 8.9 per cent.

Oil prices rose up to 25 cents a barrel today supported by tight North Sea supply and signs that OPEC will adhere to new output limits, traders said.

Prices jumped as much as 45 cents a barrel on Friday after OPEC Secretary-General Subroto estimated that OPEC output in January would fall below a ceiling of 18.5 million barrels daily agreed by the group last November.

"Friday was a big move upwards and I don't think the market could sustain that," said a European trader.

Many traders were out of the market because of holidays in Japan and the United States.

In London, equities were off the highs reached just before midday in late trading, with low volume and profit-taking combining to limit the gains, dealers said.

**Response**

Shares began the afternoon firm after the rise seen here and in other world stock markets recently and after a survey by the Confederation of British Industry showed UK retailers expect a slowdown in sales growth in January. They touched a peak after December UK retail sales figures this morning appeared to confirm the survey with a fall, after forecasts of a rise.

At 1540 GMT the FTSE 100 was up 8.4 at 1,870.5.

Shares staged a shortlived rally in response to news UK retail sales for December fell a provisional 0.1 per cent, indicating that the string of UK interest rate rises since the summer is having the desired effect of dampening consumer demand.

Many city analysts had been anticipating December retail sales would show a rise of up to 0.6 per cent, compared to a fall of the size in November.

Jan Harwood, chief economist at Warburg Securities, said the December contraction in retail sales was, "contributing to the perception that 13 per cent might be the peak of the current interest rate cycles." UK base lending rates are now 13 per cent.

**Dealer**

One senior dealer at a London-based brokerage house said of the recent increase in share volumes that cash-rich institutional investors were wary of being left behind in case the London market continued to rise strongly.

Top of the active list was British Steel with over 23.5 million changing hands for a 1p rise to 66 on good investment support while food retailer Gateway Corp shed 3p to 167, EX the 3.5p interim dividend, reflecting an unwinding of positions after the dividend payment. Some dealers said rumours Gateway could become involved in a management buyout, explained why

the shares were finding willing buyers.

Confectioner Cadbury-Schweppes added a net 8p to 347 amid speculation that 18.4 per cent stakeholder General Cinema of the US might make a full bid. The US company raised \$1.75 billion cash last Friday through the sale of its soft drinks bottling business to PepsiCo.

Cadbury's market capitalisation is around £2 billion.

Building stocks were a firm feature with Redland up 12p to 446 and RMC 10p higher at 534 but traders said the thin market in both issues exaggerated the gains.

**Trend**

United Biscuits moved against the general trend with a fall of 5p to 308 on newspaper speculation it might want to bid for RJR Nabisco's European biscuit and snack foods businesses. Dealers said such a move could make United large enough to evade a recently rumoured overseas bid approach.

Food retailer ASDA rose 3p to 137 on turnover of 5.1 million shares after half-year results showing pre-tax profit up to £109.3 million from 94.8 million, towards the upper end of forecasts.

## Gulf Bank weekly market review

## KD market relatively stable

**Kuwaiti dinar**

BASED on last week opening middle market foreign exchange rates, the KD exchange was easier against dollar ending the week at 283.59 fils compared with its week before last closing of 282.19 fils. The KD was higher against the pound sterling, ending the week at 505.78 fils compared with its week before last closing of 508.76 fils.

The KD was higher against the mark ending the week at 155.26 fils compared with its week before last closing of 157.82 fils. The KD was also higher against the SFR, ending the week at 182.73 fils compared with its week before last closing at 185.90 fils.

The KD was almost unchanged against other major foreign currencies, the Jordanian dinar and the Omani Rial.

The KD money market was relatively stable. Rates for one month were between 7.78 — 8.3/16 per cent range compared to 8.1/4 — 8.7/16 per cent range the week before last. Rates for other periods were between 8.1/8 — 8.5/8 per cent range for three months and 8.7/16 — 8.5/8 per cent for six months and one year.

**World stocks**

Wall Street stock prices rallied last week breaking the 2200 resistance level, on broad-based buying by institutions and some futures-related buying, a firmer dollar and higher bond prices.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average opened the week at 2199 and closed at 2226, recording a gain of 32 points over the previous week's closing of 2194.

Share prices on the London Stock Exchange continued to strengthen last week. Plessey share volume surged on news the £1.7 billion bid by GEC and Siemens to be probed by UK and European authorities.

The FTSE-100 opened the week at 1831 and closed higher at 1861, recording a gain of 51 points over the previous week's closing of 1810.

**US dollar**

The proposed budget plan for fiscal year 1990, which begins on Oct 1, 1989 provides a major drop in the US budget deficit, due to reduction in spending and increase in revenue.

However, the US budget deficit, as well as the US trade deficit are rated the top concerns of investors and both were cited as contributing factors that led to the 1987 crash. The forecast by the Reagan team points to a \$92.5 billion deficit in the year starting in October, compared

with a \$161.5 billion shortfall in the current fiscal year.

The Reagan proposed plan assumes robust economic growth of more than 3 per cent and those who have forecasted a recession in 1990 or even earlier would probably revise their expectations, as growth still lies ahead.

High US interest rates continued to attract corporate and investor demand for the dollar. The dollar's direction remains unclear and dealers try not to take any major positions ahead of long weekend in New York, when many banks closed yesterday for Martin Luther King day.

It is further expected that after the market opens today dealers will still refrain from taking major action until the US November trade data is released tomorrow where the dollar would show a clearer trend.

**Japanese yen**

The yen closed the week at 127.35/40 lower than its week before last closing of 126.80/85. As we have forecasted in the previous week, the Japanese yen has more downside potential against the US dollar due to the emperor's death, the continued stance of dollar/yen interest-rate differentials, and by the speculation that US Federal Reserve may soon tighten its grip on credit by raising the discount rate.

The yen/dollar rate is likely to remain steady on institutional buying demand triggered by large US/Japan interest rate differentials.

**Deutsche mark**

The mark has further deteriorated against the dollar over the week, due to continued strength of the US dollar itself coupled with the Bundesbank vice president Schlesinger's remarks last week, that he saw no signs of immediate dollar weakness and that the Bundesbank recent dollar sales were not aimed at a certain rate.

Such comments made dealers feel rather easier about buying dollars for marks. Accordingly, the dollar's bullishness against the mark was fuelled by the W. German central bank's failure to show any concerted action to defend the mark.

The market has been watched closely during the week to see if any concentrated intervention would take place by the Bundesbank aimed at pushing the dollar lower or just stopping the sharp decline of the mark.

However, both US and W.

German central banks have confirmed their views that the current dollar/mark rate is realistic.

**Pound sterling**

The pound opened the week against the dollar at \$1.7735/45, reached a high of \$1.7845/55 before closing lower at \$1.7645/55 compared to its week before last closing of \$1.7780/90. Earlier in the week, Chancellor Lawson's comment that he was not worried by sterling's recent surge against the mark, unleashed a wave of buying which sent it up through resistance at 3.25 marks.

The pound continued its advance to close against the mark at a 1 1/2 years high of 3.2600/45 marks compared with an opening of 3.2215/30 marks. The currency was helped through the 3.26 marks level by remarks by Prime Minister Thatcher and Chancellor Lawson on Thursday reasserting their interest rates are likely to remain high as long as inflation is a problem which should underpin the pound.

**French franc**

The French franc opened the week against the US dollar at FFR 6.2070/00 and closed sharply lower at FFR 6.2000/30 as the US dollar remained well-bid buoyed mainly by sentiment US interest rates will firm to curb inflationary pressures.

The Bank of France confirmed reports it joined co-ordinated intervention, but dealers said this was to sell small amounts of dollars rather than to defend the franc against the mark and was only for a fairly small amount.

France's current account posted a FFR 3.98 billion deficit in October against a revised September surplus of FFR 2.29 billion previously reported at FFR 1.6 billion.

**Swiss franc**

The Swiss franc opened the week against the US dollar at SFR 1.5500/05 and closed sharply lower at SFR 1.5735/45 compared to its week before last closing of SFR 1.5480/90. The franc has been under pressure as expectations of relatively higher inflation in Switzerland and capital outflow for investment in Germany. Swiss National Bank vice president Meyer said the bank might raise discount and Lombard rates. Increases in Swiss interest rates had been intended, expected and desired — and were the result of a more restrictive monetary policy, which was aimed at dampening inflation. They should also help to support the franc.

## Early ministerial talks will help stabilise prices

## OPEC and non-OPEC urged to curb excess supply

VIENNA, Jan 16, (Reuters): OPEC Secretary General Subroto today called for early ministerial talks between OPEC and other oil exporters in efforts to co-operate on curbing excess supply and stabilising prices.

Experts from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and from non-member producers are to meet in London on Jan 26 to discuss such a meeting. Subroto told OPEC's news agency OPECNA.

**Meeting**  
"The sooner such a (ministerial) meeting is held the better," he said.

Experts from non-OPEC countries Angola, China, Colombia, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico, North Yemen and Oman are to confer in London with experts from OPEC members Algeria, Indonesia, Kuwait, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

The last meeting between OPEC and non-OPEC sellers was in April 1988 when six non-OPEC ministers offered to cut exports by five per cent if OPEC

could match their action. It could not at that time but did agree later on new output quotas cutting its output from Jan 1 by some four million barrels daily to 18.5 million.

Meanwhile Indonesian Energy Minister Ginandjar Kartasasmita called yesterday for OPEC members and other oil producing nations to co-operate to stabilise world oil markets, and said the organisation targeted oil price of \$18 a barrel will be achieved this year.

Kartasasmita arrived in Mexico City yesterday afternoon after an official tour of Latin America's OPEC-member countries — Venezuela and Ecuador, and independent oil producer Colombia.

**Reasonable**

He is scheduled to meet hold two days of talks with top officials of Mexico, the world's fourth largest oil producer and a non-member of the organisation.

"I think that we have all the reasonable reasons to believe

that oil prices will reach \$18 a barrel. The price of oil is now already \$16 a barrel," he said. Indonesia is a member of the 13-nation OPEC.

"The adherence of OPEC to the Vienna accord is necessary to reach the desired price of \$18 a barrel," Kartasasmita said. "It is (OPEC's) internal problem and a big challenge but the co-operation of independent oil producers is also required."

Egypt, which is not a member of OPEC, yesterday raised the price of its crude oil exports by an average \$1.075 a barrel, the Egyptian Petroleum Authority announced.

**Boost**

In November, OPEC-member countries reached a landmark accord in Vienna, agreeing to slash their production by four million barrels a day to \$18.5 million barrels a day to stabilise oil prices at \$18 a barrel during the first quarter of 1989.

"Our main concern is to maintain a fair and just oil price for both consumers and oil producing countries," said Kartasasmita.

unity within OPEC members and stabilise oil prices.

"My tour was meant to re-institute contacts among the heads of state of the OPEC nations to contribute as much as possible to bolstering OPEC unity," Perez said in an arrival statement.

He said he would discuss with Gulf leaders the possibility of holding a summit for the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries. Such a summit, if held, would be the second since 1975.

The Venezuelan president-elect, who will be inaugurated on Feb 10, called for such a summit last December when he visited Algeria, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia — all members of the 13-nation organisation.

UAE Oil Minister Mana Saeed Oteibi, who is participating in the talks with Perez, said that such a summit is premature.

During his Gulf tour, Perez was scheduled to visit Iraq and Iran, OPEC members who have been at war for eight years until a ceasefire agreement was reached in August.

## Spending measures approved

ABU DHABI, Jan 16, (Reuters): The United Arab Emirates, hit by a stagnant oil market, approved temporary spending measures today after a delay in the announcement of its 1989 budget.

The cabinet agreed at its normal weekly meeting today ... on the federal decree approving temporary allocations in the country's general budget for 1989, at a share one-twelfth of the 1988 budget," said the official emirates news agency WAM.

Spending in 1988 was set at 14.26 billion dirhams (\$3.88 billion) and revenue at 12.42 billion dirhams (\$3.38 billion).

Despite a drop in world oil prices, UAE oil revenues are estimated to have been little changed in 1988 from the year before at around \$7.75 billion, with output rising in the second half to compensate for the drop.

## Turkey to open gold market

ISTANBUL, Jan 16, (Reuters): Turkey's official gold market, designed to halt smuggling and bring international standards to trading of the commodity, will open by mid-February, bankers said today.

Authorised commercial banks and foreign exchange offices will be able to trade gold against hard currency on the market, central bank sources said. The bank will import gold from international markets at competitive prices.

**Smuggling**

"The market is likely to curb smuggling. Smugglers take some \$400 commission per kilo. But the new market will charge only \$24 a kilo for insurance and transport," one banker said.

Bankers estimate up to 70 tonnes of gold were smuggled into Turkey last year.

The new market is also expected to wipe out some of the gold hoarded by Turks as a hedge against bad times.

## Bid to boost economic growth

## Sweden to cut tax rates to stimulate productivity

STOCKHOLM: Sweden has joined the global push, spanning ideological boundaries, to cut tax rates in order to stimulate individual productivity, curb inflation, and bolster economic growth.

Notorious for having the world's highest taxes, Sweden recently announced that it would slash personal income tax by as much as 50 per cent for large numbers of Swedes. Guidelines for the tax overhaul, approved last week by the ruling Social Democratic Party, are slated to become law in 1991, though many of the details are still being worked out.

"Our tax system is crumbling," said Swedish Finance Minister Kjell-Olof Feldt, in a speech to the parliament. Calling the system "perverse," he noted that high taxes had led to rampant tax evasion, lower savings, and increased borrowing.

**Quick**

"This is a reversal of traditional Social Democratic tax policies," says Carl Bild, leader of the opposition Conservative Party, who applauds the move but warns against increases in other areas of taxation.

Critics are quick to point out that even after the reform, Sweden is likely to continue to shoulder the world's heaviest tax burden. The government plans to recoup the loss of \$10 billion in personal income tax receipts by boosting indirect taxes \$8 billion. Another \$2 billion will be recovered through an expected additional one per cent economic growth from the tax cut.

The Social Democrats also plan to sharpen taxation on financial income and capital gains, and to expand the value-added tax (VAT) — currently 23.46 per cent on everything from food to the kitchen sink — to include newspapers, television licences, charter travel, movie tickets, telephone bills, and water. And, in a tough blow to homeowners, they will pull the carpet out from under a generous 50 per cent interest deduction on all per-

sonal loans, cutting them to 30 per cent.

The key question is: will Swedes change their patterns of behaviour as a result of the reform? Will they have greater incentive to work? Will they stop borrowing and start saving more? Most analysts have adopted a wait-and-see attitude.

**Proposal**

"It's too early to tell," says Peter Stein, an economist at the Swedish Free Enterprise Foundation and doctoral candidate at the Stockholm School of Economics. "In the final analysis, we don't really know what this proposal amounts to. We see bits and pieces of it, but we're still not clear whether it is to be implemented item-by-item or as a coherent package."

Some aspects of the tax reform, however, are clear. Swedish workers who earn less than \$26,000 per year — some 90 per cent of Sweden's workers — will have their national income tax reduced to zero and pay 30 per cent municipal tax.

Swedes currently pay combined municipal and state taxes of about 45 per cent. The top tax rate would fall to 60 per cent from 75 per cent.

This is good news for Swedes, especially those with high incomes and low deductions, says Staffan Andersson, a senior tax partner at Price Waterhouse in Stockholm.

**Benefit**

He adds that the group to benefit least would be average wage earners with high loans, which includes many Swedes.

A Swedish worker earning \$33,000 a year or more, currently faces a stunning marginal, or peak, income tax rate of 75 per cent to pay for the country's generous welfare system. Under the tax proposal, this rate would be cut to 60 per cent by 1991.

Many Swedes have resorted to a series of legal, semilegal, and illegal devices to reduce the tax burden. Many form their own paper companies, which report annual losses and write these off

against income tax. Others simply work "off the books" or trade services with each other instead of cash. This is the sort of behaviour the tax proposal aims to stop.

But longtime observers question whether the changes will be enough. "It doesn't go far enough," says Peter Stein, who recently published a paper entitled "Sweden: Failure of the Welfare State" in the US-based Journal of Economic Growth. Says Stein, "Feldt's praiseworthy but modest proposal will not suffice to make Sweden, the outsider, competitive enough to be a winner in the 1990s."

Stein is among other things, referring to a drive by the European Economic Community (EEC) to create an internal common market by 1992. Sweden is not an EEC member

due to its stance on political neutrality, but has been actively discussing joining. It would likely be, however, a major problem to integrate Swedish taxes with a tariff-free market.

"There's no question that we've felt pressure to bring our taxes in line with the rest of the world," says Price Waterhouse's Andersson.

Adds Stein, "While other countries have been privatising and deregulating, Sweden has pursued a course in exactly the opposite direction."

He notes that during the 1960s and 1970s, a time when Sweden was hailed as the "middle way" — an ideal mixture of socialism and capitalism — that this was simply not the case.

The Christian Science Monitor.

## WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Jan 16, (Reuters): The market closed lower largely on gloomy forecasts about Australian and US trade figures due to be announced this week. Volume was thin. The All-Ordinaries index lost 5.8 to 1,512.2.

TOKYO: Market closed for national holiday.

HONG KONG: The market consolidated gains of last week but prices finished off the day's highs. The Hang Seng index rose 12.69 to 2,856.67.

SINGAPORE: Prices were firmer on strong buying interest and one analyst said further rises were likely. The Straits Times Industrial Index rose 8.72 to 1,107.91.

BOMBAY: Concerted buying by state-owned financial institutions helped shares gain ground in cautious trading. There was little other support as the market kept to the sidelines to await results of elections in three Indian states.

The Real-Time 30-share Dax index closed at 1,344.11, 9.14 points down.

ZURICH: Swiss shares closed steady to lower in fairly moderate trading. The firmer dollar and higher close on Wall Street had little impact on the market. The All-Share Swiss index was virtually unchanged at 975.2.

PARIS: Open victory trading on blue chips continued to be halted by midday because of a one-day strike by Bourse employees which kept many investors away. The 50-share Bourse Indicator was down 0.9 per cent.

LONDON: Equities were off highs reached just before midday in late trading, with low volume and profit-taking combining to limit the gains. At 1540 GMT, the FTSE 100 share index was up 8.4 at 1,870.5.

NEW YORK: Wall Street stocks were about unchanged in morning trading with US bond and currency markets closed. The Dow was close to Friday's close at 2225.

## Tender No. PACI/6-88/89

Tender Internal No. — Concerned Party: Public Authority for Civil Information Requirements: Supply and installation of a storing unit for computer semi-conductors. Relevant Fee: KD.30/- Initial Guarantee: 5 of offer's value Closing Date: 12 noon, Sunday, 12.2.1989.

Qualified Tenderers: 1. A/Mohsen Badr Al Khoraifi Co. 2. Al Ahlamia Electronics Co. 3. Al Khuneizi & Al Qatani Trdg & Contg Co.

4. Al Massee Office Technical System Co. 5. Information Technology Co. 6. Trdg & Technology Co. 7. Trdg & Technology Co. 8. Al Diyar United Trdg & Contg Co.

9. International Computer Co. 10. Kuwait Computer Co. 11. Kuwait Computer Services Co. 12. Kuwait Computer System Centre Co.

13. Kuwait Danish Computer Co. 14. Marafii Sons Co. 15. Ahmad Fahd Al Fahd Trdg & Contg Co.

16. Arabian Computer Co. 17. Photo & Cine Co. 18. Intl Integrated Computer Systems Co. 19. W.J. Towell Computer Services Co.

20. Tukhaim Engg Group 21. Btl Co. (Bader Al Mulla & Bros) 22. Gulf Star Computer Systems Co. 23. Najed Ind. & Trdg Co.

24. National Computer Services Co. 25. Kuwait Technical Systems Co. 26. Qiras & Khajria Co. 27. A/Ghani Al Mutawa Sons Co.

28. United Computer Systems Group. 29. Al Asqa Computer Co. 30. Sahara Computer System Co.

31. Time General Trdg & Contg Co. 32. Sayed Al Kazem Sons Trdg Co. 33. Computer Consultants & Services Technical Centre

34. Al Sane Group Co. 35. Mohd Saleh Marafi Trdg & Contg Co. 36. Youns Ibrahim Al Ghanim ICL

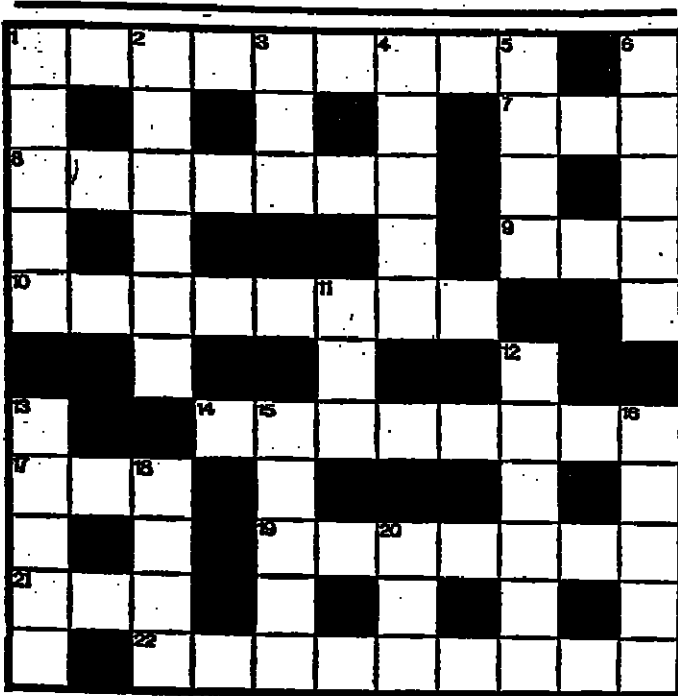
37. Hamad Abdulla Al Essa & Sons Co. 38. Computer Technical Systems Co. 39. Mohd A/Rahman Al Xahr & Part Co.

40. Khashifa Jassim Trdg & Contg Co. 41. Intl Computer Consultancy Co. 42. A/Aziz A/Mohsen Al Rashid Co.

43. Computer Systems Co. 44. Al Rayes & Bros Group 45. Al Ayed Trdg, Est. 46. Kuwait National Computer & Laser Systems Co.



## CROSSWORD



## Across

- 1 Having a bewitching attractiveness (9)  
 7 A well-indulged favourite (3)  
 8 Withdrawals of labour (7)  
 9 Woman dedicated to religion (3)  
 10 Garments worn under shirts (8)  
 14 Making a voluntary contribution (8)  
 17 An anthropoid creature (3)  
 19 Stations at railways' ends (7)  
 21 Garden implement for weeding (3)  
 22 Dwelling-place of some size (9)

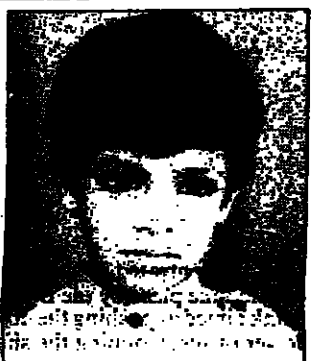
## Down

- 1 Takes hurried breaths (5)  
 2 Process of ventilation (6)  
 3 Tree producing acorns (3)  
 4 Violent attack (5)  
 5 Stretch of time (4)  
 6 Detached piece of rock (5)  
 11 An age of great length (3)  
 12 Dependent in a servile position (6)  
 13 Light sailing vessel (5)  
 15 Attestations of truth (5)  
 16 Proceed in a smooth manner (5)  
 18 At any time (4)  
 20 Pillar-box colour (3)

Solutions on Thursday

## Happy birthday

Fawaz Haroon Rashid Ansari celebrated her 7th birthday on 15/1/89. Mary happy returns from your family and friends.



## Truly amazing!

In 1910 Dr Crippen was the first criminal to be arrested by the use of wireless communication.

The greater Dwarf Lemur of Madagascar always gives birth to triplets.

In 1962 an Adelaide (Australia) typist typed non-stop for 53 hours.

George Washington used to soak his ivory dentures every night in port to improve their flavour.

A ten-year-old Californian boy sat in a tree in his backyard for 55 days.

In London in the middle of the Eighteenth century, nearly 75 per cent of the babies born died before the age of five.

Tea was first imported into Europe by the Dutch East India Company in 1609.

A pickpocket deported to Australia for his crimes, there became chief of police of Parramatta.

In the middle of the Nineteenth century one and a half million Irish died during the Potato Famine.

William Shakespeare spelt his surname eleven different ways.

Leonardo da Vinci could write with one hand and draw with the other at the same time.

In 1888 in Moradabad, northern India, 246 people were killed by hailstones.

The giant squid, whose length can exceed 15 metres, has the largest eyes of any living animal; they measure 38 cms across.

Between 1851 and 1852, 55 boys under fourteen were sent to prison for stealing less than six pence.

In the 1920s a census taken among Eskimos showed that less than one in forty-six had ever seen an igloo.

A bottle of wine sold in London in 1960 was 420 years old.

## The flying house

AS Timothy walked up the road from the beach, the mist rolled in behind him, and soon he could not see the houses he was passing. He found a gate which looked like Aunt Mary's gate, but as soon as he went into the house behind it, he knew he had come to the wrong one. He tried to go out again, but the door would not open. It had opened easily when he came in, so Timothy pulled harder, but it was no use. He began to think there was something queer about that door.

Suddenly Timothy sat down on the floor with a bump. The house was rocking. Timothy could hardly believe it. He stood up very carefully and tried to walk across the room. There was no doubt about it, that house was rocking gently in a way no ordinary well-behaved house ought to do. Then Timothy heard footsteps from inside the house, and bravely he turned to face the door as it opened.

An old man came in, and Timothy was so surprised that he forgot to be frightened. He had never seen a wizard before, but he was quite sure that this man could not be anything else.

"Good afternoon, young man," said the wizard, when he had got over his own surprise at finding a strange boy in his

kitchen. "How did you appear?"

"I was going to Aunt Mary's house," said Timothy. "But I went through the wrong gate in the mist and came here by mistake. I'm very sorry. I can't open the door to go out again."

"Of course not," said the wizard. "It's dangerous to open outside doors when the house is flying. You must have come in just before I made the locking spell."

"I'm sorry," said Timothy again. He was not sure whether the wizard was really cross, even though he was frowning.

"Quite right," said the wizard. "Sorry is what you should be, but it doesn't help much at the moment." Then he smiled. "How about chocolate cake and orange juice while we wait?"

Timothy decided that he liked the wizard, and the cake was nearly as good as the ones Aunt Mary made. It did not seem a long time before they felt a bump as the house landed. Timothy ran to the window.

"Where are we?" he asked.

"I was wondering that myself," said the wizard.

"Wait until the mist clears. Then we'll see."

Timothy stared in dismay at mile after mile of hills, with not a single house in sight.

"What a lovely view," said the wizard.

"But how am I going to get home from here?" cried Timothy.

"Well, um... that has been worrying me for some time," said the wizard. "You see, I retired years ago, and sold all my magic books. The only spells I remember are the ones I need for moving my house. I do not know where we are now, and I have no idea how you are going to get home."

Timothy looked at the wizard. He could not bear to think that he might never get home. The wizard seemed upset about it too. He said he would go and turn out his cupboards, in case there was a spell hidden away which might be useful. He was gone a long time, and Timothy looked around for something to do. When the wizard came back, there were puddles of water on the floor and a lot of soap suds in the sink, but the dishes were clean and

none of them broken.

"Splendid," said the wizard. "I hate washing-up after chocolate cake. I think you've earned this little present."

Timothy looked at the thing the wizard gave him. It was round and flat with a hollow in the middle.

"It's called a journey stone," said the wizard. "Hold it in your hand and blow on it." Timothy blew, and a light came on in the hollow. "That light means the stone is ready to take you somewhere. So you say the magic word, say where you want to go, and next minute you're there."

"Thank you," said Timothy. "What's the magic word?"

"Well, um... I can't remember," said the wizard. "It is something like cheese, or peas. The trouble is that if you saw a word which is like the magic word but not quite right, the stone will take you somewhere like the place you want to go to but not quite right, which is really the same as a wrong place."

"Then I'll try again," said Timothy, "and keep on trying till I get the right one."

"You could if the stone

was new," said the wizard, "but this one is old. It has only three journeys left, and after that it will be no use at all. But I think you could try several words together. If the right one is there it should be more powerful than the others."

"Cheese, peas and trees," said Timothy. "I want to go to Aunt Mary's house by the sea."

Next minute he landed with a bump and a splash in the waves at the edge of a beach, but it was not the beach near Aunt Mary's house. There were sand dunes where the road ought to be. Timothy climbed the dunes and looked over the other side, but there were no houses, and he could not see any people who might tell him where he was. So he sat down and tried to think of more words rhyming with cheese.

"Knees, bees, keys," he said, "and teas, at Aunt Mary's house with a white gate and a garden."

Suddenly Timothy found himself beside a table full of lovely food. It looked so nice that he could not take his eyes off it.

"What are you doing in here?" said a woman's voice.

Timothy jumped. She sounded very cross.

"I'm looking for Aunt Mary," he said.

"I may be called Mary," she said, "and I may be an aunt. But I don't have dirty little nephews like you."

She picked up a poker and chased Timothy out of the house, into the garden and through the white gate to the street.

"I'm glad I'm not her nephew," said Timothy, "but now there is only one journey left." He thought hard for a while, but he could only think of one more word. He blew on the stone and said, "Please, oh PLEASE, take me to my own Aunt Mary's house."

"There you are at last, Tim," said Aunt Mary. "I was afraid you had got lost in the mist."

Wash  
 "I did," said Timothy. "But I found myself again." He was so glad to be back. He did not mind his own Aunt Mary telling him he was dirty and must wash before he could have tea.

Timothy finished his bread and butter, and looked hopefully at his favourite chocolate cake.

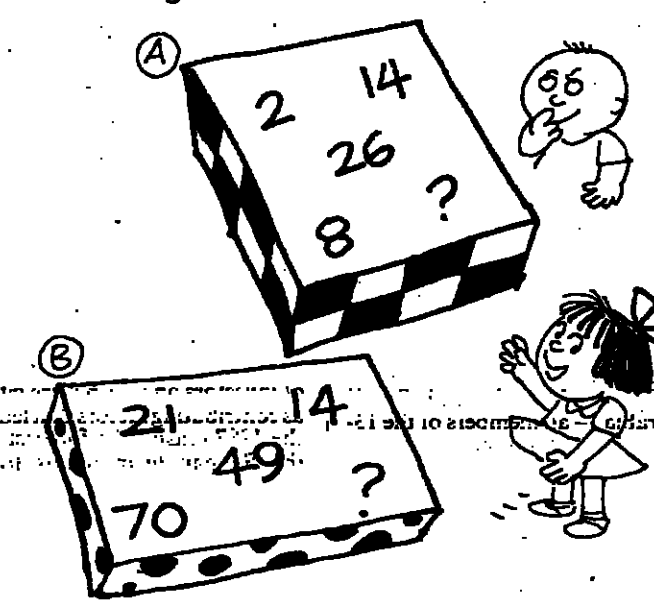
"What's the magic word, Tim?" asked Aunt Mary.

Timothy stopped looking at the cake and stared at his aunt. How did she know? He was saving his story for later.

"Please," said Timothy. Aunt Mary cut him an extra large slice.

## NUMBER BOXES

Each of these boxes contains a set of numbers. Can you work out what the set is and find another number to go in each box?



## COMPARING THINGS

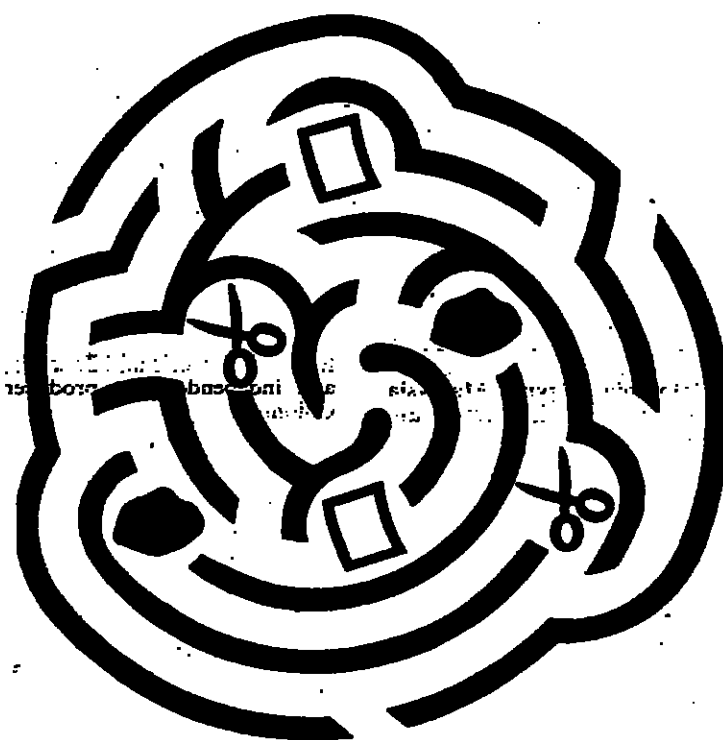
1. A IS TO A TOE

AS A IS TO A —

2. A IS TO PAPER

AS IS TO —

## amaze ROCK, SCISSORS, PAPER



by Dave Phillips

Find the only path which enters the maze, passes through all rocks, scissors and paper, and exits the maze, without using any part of a path more than once. Rock may not go to paper (paper covers rock). Paper may not go to scissors (scissors cut paper). Scissors may not go to rock (rock breaks scissors).

## Ha! Ha!

How does Jack Frost get to work?  
 By icicle.

What do you do if you have four cigarettes but no matches?  
 Throw one away and you'll be a cigarette lighter.

Why couldn't the butterfly go to the dance?  
 Because it was a moth-ball.

What happened when the cat swallowed a 50p piece?  
 There was money in the kitty.

What did the tree say to the woodpecker?  
 'You bore me.'

## Answers

- Number boxes — A. Any even number; B. 28, 35, 42 or any number that can be divided by 7.
- Comparing things 1. Finger; 2. Thread.

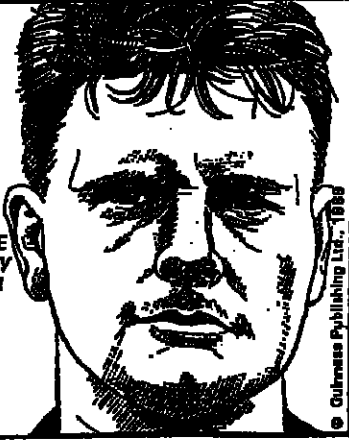
## amaze SOLUTION



## Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS



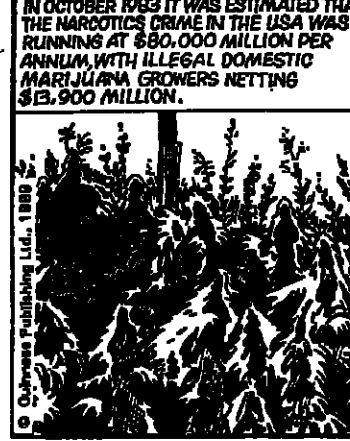
THE GREATEST TRANSFER FEE QUOTED FOR A FOOTBALLER IS £6,750,000 PAID BY NAPOLI IN 1984 FOR DIEGO MARADONA (ARGENTINA) (6.30 OCT 1980) FROM BARCELONA. THIS EXCEEDED THE £5 MILLION PAID FOR MARADONA IN 1982.



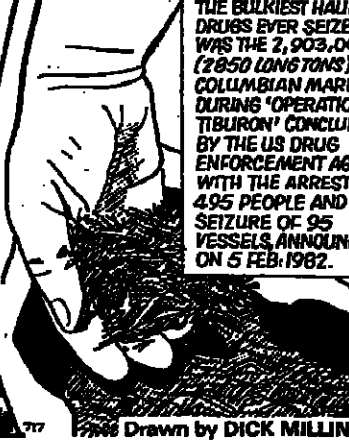
THE EQUAL RECORD FEE BETWEEN TWO BRITISH FOOTBALL CLUBS IS £2 MILLION (INCLUDING VAT AND OTHER LEVIES) PAID BY TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR TO NEWCASTLE UNITED FOR PAUL GASCOIGNE (6.27 MAY 1987) ON 7 JULY 1988.



THE EQUAL RECORD MARGIN IN A FOOTBALL LEAGUE MATCH IS 13 GOALS WHEN NEWCASTLE UNITED (9) BEAT NEWPORT COUNTY (0) IN A 2<sup>ND</sup> DIVISION MATCH ON 5 OCT 1946.



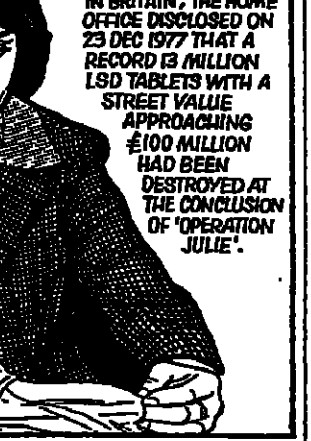
IN OCTOBER 1983 IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT THE MARIJUANA TRAFFIC IN THE USA WAS RUNNING AT \$80,000 MILLION PER ANNUM, WITH ILLEGAL DOMESTIC MARIJUANA GROWERS NETTING \$15,900 MILLION.



THE BIGGEST HAUL OF DRUGS EVER SEIZED WAS THE 2,503,000KG (2,503 TONS) OF COLUMBIAN MARIJUANA DURING 'OPERATION TIBURON' CONDUCTED BY THE US DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY WITH THE ARREST OF 455 PEOPLE AND THE SEIZURE OF 95 VESSELS ANNOUNCED ON 5 FEB 1982.



IN BRITAIN, THE HOME OFFICE DISCLOSED ON 23 DEC 1977 THAT A RECORD 13 MILLION LSD TABLETS WITH A STREET VALUE APPROXIMATING £100 MILLION HAD BEEN DESTROYED AT THE CONCLUSION OF 'OPERATION JULIE'.



THE GREATEST TRANSFER FEE QUOTED FOR A FOOTBALLER IS £6,750,000 PAID BY NAPOLI IN 1984 FOR DIEGO MARADONA (ARGENTINA) (6.30 OCT 1980) FROM BARCELONA. THIS EXCEEDED THE £5 MILLION PAID FOR MARADONA IN 1982.



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

## ACCOMMODATION

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DASMA, Area 1, Road 18, House 4. One room for a family or two working ladies. Tele. Mr. Nadi: 2403097, 2561590.

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SALMIYA, behind the Mercedes Showroom. Single room for a decent Christian bachelor/spinster. Rent negotiable. Tele. Mr. Robert, 242443/4 or 2440161 off. Mr. Iggy, 5719291, Res. 6-8 pm.

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KHALDIYA, Sharing accommodation for bachelors. Bus routes 13, 21, 19, 31, 18, 42, 101. Tele. Mr. Jil, 4673466 ext. 261.

(AT4-45666-2)

SALWA, House - 196, Block - 7, Area - 4. One big room with kitchen facilities for a family or working girls to share with Filipino girls. Bus routes 34, 102, 502. Rent KD50. Tele. 5611243.

(AT4-45671-3)

SHAMIYA, close to Kuwait City. Accommodation for a single lady to share with an Indian/Filipino family. Tele. Mr. Paddy or Mr. Riaz, 4833281, 4831508, 2402891-3.

(AT4-45638-3)

SALMIYA, near fire station, next to busstop. Sharing accommodation in a one bedroom flat with kitchen facilities for an Indian bachelor. Tele. 5611489.

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### For Rent

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AMSTRAD CPC 6128 personal computer/world processor, monitor, keyboard, colour printer, joystick with plenty of software and games, as new, KD240. Tele. 3946310, any time.

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### Electrical Appliances

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BMW 320, 1982 model, AC, automatic, in very good condition. KD1,058 or KD44 per month by instalments. Tele. Mr. Presley, 5744138.

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SUZUKI Jeep, 1982 model, 117,000 kms, in good condition. KD350. Tele. 2432769.

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MITSUBISHI Cordia, 1983, 84,000 kms, white, automatic, in excellent condition. KD800 ono. Tele. 2533000 Ext. 233, after 6 pm.

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TOYOTA Four Runner, 4 wheel drive, 1987 model, grey, manual, 30,000 kms with sunroof in good condition. KD3,500 ono. Cash. Tele. Dr. Ali 5312700 ext. 2138 any time.

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TOYOTA Crown, 2.8L Super Saloon, 1983 model, automatic, silver colour, 10,100 kms, in immaculate condition. Best offer, cash. Tele. Mr. Alban, 4849800, 8-11.30 am, 3.30-5.30 pm.

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MERCEDES 280S, 1979, rust colour, fully automatic with AC and sunroof, in excellent condition. KD975. Tele. Ashkan 4878197 any time, answerphone.

(AT2-45650-3)

OLDSMOBILE Cutlass Brougham, 1983 model, automatic, dark green with AC, one door, radio and cassette in very good condition. KD1350, cash or KD53x30 by instalments. Tele. Mr. Waheeb, 4749941, 6-11 pm.

(AT2-45640-3)

MERCEDES 280SE 1979 milky automatic with grey interior, automatic, six months guarantee for engine. One year insurance with AC in excellent condition. KD1600. Tele. 5385094, 5653952.

(AT4-45654-3)

Miscellaneous  
SALMIYA, overlooking the sea spacious (220 sq.m.) fully furnished 3 bedroom CAC apartment. Rent KD450. Two options - all the furniture, KD4,500 or carpets, curtains, light fittings, KD1,300. Can be sold separately. Tele. 5716180.

(AT2-45639-3)

BMW motorcycle RT100 1000cc, 4 cylinders, black with many extras. 1000 kms, in mint condition. KD1,950 ono. Tele. Dr. Ali, 5312700 ext. 2138, anytime.

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BEDROOM set almost new, with 2 single beds and mattresses, side table and wall unit for sale. Price KD100. Tele. Sami 2425995, 5323587.

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HAWALLI, Cairo Street, near Dr. Navagiris Clinic. 2 bedroom flat. Rent KD100. Also large refrigerator, 2 AC's, double bed and dressing table for sale. Tele. 2448892, after 4 pm.

(AT2-45627-3)

COMPLETE household items for immediate sale. Low prices. Tele. 2432769.

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HOUSEHOLD goods - freezer, radiators, fires, lamps, bed, tables etc. Couple leaving Kuwait. Tele. 5717120.

(AT4-45673-3)

NIKON camera F2AS lens 24mm - 1.28 Vivitar flash, motor drive AV. Tele. Mr. Ikler, 5657000 ext. 372, 2.30-5.30 pm.

BANG and Olufsen Beocenter 3500, recently serviced by agents KD100. Tele. 5338322.

(AT4-45672-3)

POOL table, KD100, kitchen table, KD20, windsurfer, KD80, bar (marble), fridge, stools and shelves, KD125, draughting board, KD85, chest of drawers, curtains washer/dryer, KD50. Tele. Johnnie, 2409429, 7.30 am - 12 noon.

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AL MUTHANNA Complex, fully carpeted and furnished one bedroom apartment including 7 piece sofa set, dining set, wall unit, writing desk, double bed, bunk beds, electrical appliances, curtains, and plants. Tele. 2428279.

(AT2-45646-3)

## LOST

PASSPORT No. B 070129 in the name of Mr. Jakir Hussain, Indian. Finder please tele. 2638899, 2407846.

(AT4-45668-3)

## SITUATIONS

### Wanted

SALESMAN with 10 years experience, having Kuwaiti driving licence, own car and transferable residence, seeks full-time job. Tele. 2433101, 4-7 pm.

(AT2-45633-3)

MAID, 6 years' experience with children and references, seeks full time job with an European family. Tele. Perera, 5381385, 8.30 am - 3 pm.

(AT4-45675-2)

INDIAN female professional with knowledge of typing, telex, Word-Star 2000, seeks full time job. Tele. Mr. Asgar, 2420465.

(AT4-45682-3)

## Vacant

MAID required to look after a baby from 6.30 am to 2.30 pm, part-time, in Juteeb Al Shiyok. Tele. 4310906, 4-6 pm.

(AT2-45644-3)

MAID required for an English family, full-time to live-in. Must speak English and have a transferable visa. Tele. 5339322, 6-9 pm.

(AT3-45663-2)

MAID required, Sri Lankan or Indian for a small Indian family to live-in. Tele. 4885978.

(AT2-45629-3)

MAID required immediately for an American family to live-in. Must speak English. Residence can be provided. Tele. 5715402 after 2.30 pm.

(AT4-45667-3)

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(AT4-45669-2)

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## Steps Studio

All ballet and disco/jazz courses for girls aged 4 years and above are now being conducted at the Kuwait English School, Salwa.  
Registration for the new term is now open from 5-7 pm daily, Saturday to Wednesday, in main building.  
N.B.: No more courses in Salmiya.

## SERVICES

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A young female secretary for an office in Salmiya. Transferable residence, English typing and telex operation a requisite. Office hours 9.00 am to 3.00 pm. Salary KD 125/- monthly. Contact 5714550 from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm.

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Diary date - 10th March

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## GOLF

## Jones takes title on first extra hole

PALM DESERT, Calif., Jan 16, (Reuters): Steve Jones broke a three-way deadlock with a birdie on the first extra hole yesterday to win the \$1 million Bob Hope Classic Golf tournament for his second straight victory on the 1989 US Tour.

Jones, who last week won the Tournament of Champions, is the first player to win the first two events of the year since Gil Morgan won the Tucson and Los Angeles Opens in 1983.

Jones, Paul Azinger and Sandy Lyle of Britain finished the regulation five rounds tied at 17-under-par 343.

On the first playoff hole, Jones hit a seven-iron approach shot to within four feet, while Lyle was off the edge of the Green. Azinger hit the putting surface, but some 20 feet from the cup.

Lyle, using his putter, missed from 25 feet, followed by Azinger, who missed his birdie attempt. Jones then sank his \$180,000 putt. Lyle and Azinger each earned \$88,000.

**Course**  
"I can't believe it, after the way I started," said Jones who shot an opening round four-over-par 76. He followed that with a 68, a 67 and set a course record 63 at the El Dorado course before his final round 69 on the Bermuda Dunes Course.

Azinger seemed to be in command late in the round with a two-stroke lead after a birdie at the 15th hole. However, Jones birdied the 16th and 17th holes to reach 17-under-par and Lyle birdied his final hole to set up the three-way playoff.

Azinger missed winning in regulation when he bogeyed his final hole.

Courseground leader Mark Calcavecchia managed only an even-par 72 to wind up tied with Larry Wadkins, Kenny Knox and Fred Couples, one stroke off the pace at 16-under-par 344.

## King coasts to classic victory

SANDY BAY, Jamaica, Jan 16, (Reuters): Betsy King, riding a seven-over-par 111, won the \$500,000 Jamaica Classic golf tournament yesterday.

King shot a one-under-par 70 for an 11-under winning total of 202 worth \$75,000.

Nancy Lopez, 1988 Player of the Year, was unable to make a serious run at King and finished in second place at five-under-par 208 after a two-under 69.

Lopez birdied the seventh, 14th, and 17th holes and gave a stroke back with a bogey on 13.

**Charge**  
"I knew I was going to have to shoot a good score today because I didn't expect Betsy to falter," said Lopez. "I needed to try to make a charge earlier than 13 or 14."

Martha Nause and Lori Garbacz finished tied for third place at three-under-par 210. Beth Daniel, Rosie Jones and Hollis Stacy were a shot further back at 211.

King opened her final round with a birdie that dropped her to 11-under-par. She lost the stroke by three-putting for a bogey on the sixth hole but recovered with a birdie on seven.

## RICHARDS &amp; CO. HAMMER AUSTRALIANS TO SQUARE SERIES

## Bishop leads West Indies to crushing win

SYDNEY, Jan 16, (Reuters): Fast bowler Ian Bishop grabbed four wickets as West Indies crushed Australia by 92 runs to go all square in the best-of-three World Series Cup one-day finals at the Sydney Cricket Ground today.

In front of 45,000 spectators, West Indies showed their batting prowess and little mercy in smashing the series' highest score of 277 for nine in their 50 overs. In reply, Australia were dismissed in 40 overs for 185.

The result of the second day-night game left the competition to be decided in the final clash here on Wednesday.

## Momentum

Despite a brave attempt to keep pace with the required run rate of 5.56 an over to win, the Australians lost their momentum when quick wickets fell half way through the run-chase.

After taking a few overs to adjust to the twilight conditions, Australia pressed the accelerator and sprinted to 30 runs without loss in just 10 overs.

David Boon, dropped when he was on one, was particularly aggressive, cracking four boundaries and a six to reach 36. But then he was caught by Richie Richardson off the first ball of Bishop's hostile spell.

Despite the loss of Boon, Australia continued to score quickly with both Dean Jones and Geoff Marsh in a fine form, and at one stage were ahead of the required run rate.

But then Marsh was run out



Richardson sweeps the ball past Australian wicketkeeper Ian Healy. (Reuters wirephoto)

for 22 attempting a suicidal second run and Jones fell soon after, caught by substitute fieldsmen Roger Harper off Bishop's bowling trying to hook.

Jones' 27 came from only 26 deliveries and included three fours and a magnificent six.

Australia were then 100 for three, made from only 101 balls and they attempted to keep up the tempo.

Captain Allan Border and Mark Waugh played intelligently but then Bishop made another vital breakthrough, dismissing Waugh for 22 with an easy catch off his own bowling.

Mark Waugh's dismissal sparked off a collapse in which Australia lost their last seven wickets for only 52 runs. Bishop finished with four for 52 from his

10 overs.

Australia's experiment with a three-pronged spin attack failed badly with the recalled Greg Matthews being lashed all over the ground and conceding 62 runs in only seven overs.

Choosing to bat after winning the toss, West Indies piled on the runs with a quick-fire 99-run opening partnership between Desmond Haynes and Gordon Greenidge.

They combined magnificently in an early onslaught that yielded more than six runs an over while Border, in a desperate attempt to stem the flow, used six bowlers in the first 22 overs.

Haynes brought up his own half-century, which included seven fours, off only 48 balls but then Peter Taylor broke through



Greenidge hits out during his innings of 46. (Reuters wirephoto)

to have Greenidge caught on the mid-wicket boundary for 46. Greenidge's innings included one six and seven fours.

Haynes followed shortly afterwards for 62, hitting a ball straight to Steve Waugh at mid-wicket off Border's spin bowling.

Richards was dropped by Steve Waugh, normally one of the safest of fielders, before he scored and made Australia pay

dearly for the error.

He slammed three enormous sixes, two off successive deliveries from Matthews, and three boundaries in reaching his 53.

He was eventually bowled by Merv Hughes going for one big hit too many, but by then he had shared in an 80-run stand with Richie Richardson for the fourth wicket and the target already

looked well beyond Australia's capabilities.

Richardson supported Richards with sensibly played innings of 55 and although six wickets fell for only 31 runs towards the end, West Indies had the match well in hand.

## Scoreboard

## WEST INDIES

G. Greenidge c Jones b Taylor	46
D. Haynes c S. Waugh b Border	62
G. Logie c and b Border	18
R. Richardson c M. Waugh b S. Waugh	55
C. Hooper c M. Waugh b Hughes	12
M. Marshall b Hughes	4
J. Dejour b Hughes	5
C. Ambrose not out	7
I. Bishop run out	0
Extras (b-5 lb-9 w-1)	15
Total (for nine wickets, 50 overs)	277
Fall of wickets: 1-99 2-120 3-166 4-246 5-258 6-263 7-270 8-277 9-277	
Bowling: Alderman 8-0-42-0, Hughes 7-0-44-4, Matthews 7-0-62-0 (1w), S. Waugh 8-0-45-1, Taylor 10-0-31-1, Border 10-0-39-2. Did not bat: C. Walsh.	

## AUSTRALIA

D. Boon c Richardson b Bishop	36
G. Marsh run out	22
D. Jones c sub (Harper) b Bishop	27
A. Border c Richardson b Bishop	10
M. Waugh c and b Bishop	22
S. Waugh st Dejour b Hooper	8
G. Matthews run out	4
L. Healy run out	7
P. Taylor not out	13
M. Hughes b Hooper	13
T. Alderman b Hooper	0
Extras (b-5 lb-10 nb-3 w-9)	23
Total (40 overs)	185
Fall of wickets: 1-57 2-54 3-100 4-135 5-137 6-149 7-149 8-162 9-185	
Bowling: Marshall 5-1-30-0 (1w), Ambrose 6-1-30-0 (2w), Bishop 10-0-52-4 (3w), Walsh 9-1-40-0 (2w), Hooper 10-2-22-3 (1w).	

## Casuals outplay Arrows

CASUALS cricket club retained the leadership of the Jashamal League by defeating Flying Arrows by five wickets at Ahmadi on Friday. Casuals showed their strength of character by stepping up the pressure at decisive moments to keep the opposition at bay.

Richard Snowden managed to continue his lucky streak of losing the toss and the Arrows chose to bat. Both openers looked very shaky against the pace of Steve Anderson and Adi Selveratnam and the latter was extremely unlucky during his fine spell when three awkward chances went to ground.

## Point

Anderson, however, decided not to leave anything to fate and clean bowled Imdad for 6 and his replacement Millind for 9. At that point John (28) and Albert (26) were threatening to build a score as the bowling of Snowden was heavily punished for a change.

However, Snowden was quick to recognise the danger and brought on the spin of Ron Seward. Seward wasted no time in breaking up the partnership as Albert lofted a deep catch to Anderson. Arrows collapsed as their batsmen played risky shots against the spin.

Fine catches by Peter Bond, Anderson again, and Anil Khazanchi turned the game decisively. Anderson was then brought back and he flattened the stumps of Ashok to finish on 3 for 34. Seward then claimed a lbw and comprehensively bowled Norbert to finish with 6 for 25 from his spell. Snowden brought himself back to claim the final wicket and leave Arrows on a score of 141.

Casuals reply did not begin well as Kevin Wells fell to a good low catch in the slips off Saleem. Val Tudball and Ron Seward soon put this behind them and Tudball especially looked in good form before losing concentration and his middle stump. A rare appearance from the injury-prone Clements looked full of promise when he cracked a fine four off his first delivery. Unfortunately he was adjudged lbw moments later. The same fate befell Seward when he had reached a chanceless 45, leaving the batsman shaking his head in wonder.

## Seemed

Adi Selveratnam blasted a powerful six in his valuable 15 before being bowled when he seemed set to end the game at short notice. It was left to the skipper Snowden to lead his side home, capably aided by Peter Bond.

Both players looked in complete control and measured their run-rate to match the score and present no further chances. Snowden finished on 33 and his partner 13 with plenty of batting left in the pavilion.

## Wilf Slack dies on field in Gambia

BANJUL, Jan 16, (Reuters): England cricketer Wilf Slack collapsed during a cricket match in the Gambia yesterday and later died in hospital, doctors said.

The West Indian-born Middlesex and England opener slumped to the ground during a friendly match at Banjul's MacCarthy Square between his touring Cavaliers side and the Gambian national team.

Doctor Ulric Johns told Reuters that Slack, 34, died of a heart attack shortly after being taken to the capital's Royal Hospital.

## Once

Slack won three Test caps, all in 1986, twice against West Indies in the Caribbean and once against India in England.

The Cavaliers arrived in the Gambia, a former British colony on the north-west of Africa, on Jan 10.

Slack suffered blackouts while batting both at home and abroad.

He blacked out while practising in the nets during England's 1986-87 tour of Australia, and last May he was told not to play cricket for two weeks while doctors investigated why he blacked out at the crease during a Middlesex match.

St Vincent-born Slack made his county debut in 1977.

## Widnes triumph

LONDON, Jan 16, (Reuters): Record Rugby League signing Jonathan Davies was overshadowed by another ex-rugby union player, Martin Offiah, who scored four tries in a 50-8 win for Widnes over Salford yesterday.

Davies, captain of Wales until he joined the professional code in a transfer of around £250,000 from Llanelli on Jan 5, did not make his debut until the 53rd minute.

## Cantt B and Al Ahli rout opponents

CANTT B trashed Royal Cricket Club by 50 runs in a Cantt Challenge Cup match at the Salmiya ground on Friday.

In the other matches, Al Ahli crushed Sanaya Al Ghanim Cricket Club by seven wickets while Royal defeated Forces by four wickets.

Cantt, batting first, scored 196 for the loss of seven wickets. Nadeem scored 60, Faisal 35, Tahir 28, Tariq 24 and Darryl 21. For Royal, Waseem and Nadeem took two wickets each while Arshad and Qaiser got one each.

**Losses**  
Royal, however, were soon in trouble losing both their openers cheaply. They kept on losing wickets at regular intervals and were all out for 146.

Qaiser scored 32, Ameen 31 and A. Zahid 31. For Cantt B Faisal, Darryl, Amjad and Waseem got two wickets each while Tariq and Siraj took one each.

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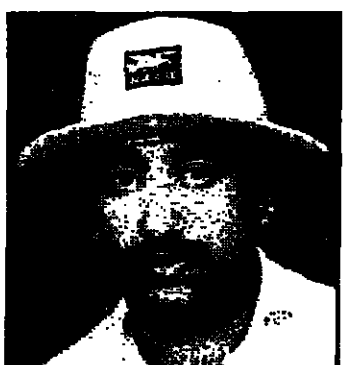
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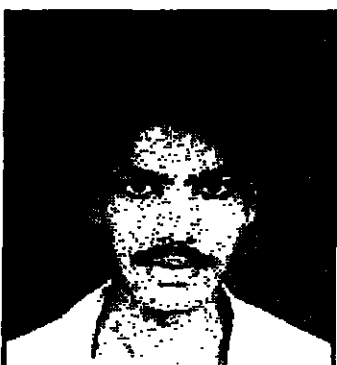
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Nadeem: scored 60



Ayub: 44 for Al Ahli

the only batsmen to reach the double figures. William was the main wicket-taker for Al Ahli with four scalps while Jerome got three and Anwar and Ayub one each.

Al Ahli found the task easy when they batted and crossed the target in only 18 overs for the loss of three wickets.

Amer 37 and Imran 19 were

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## China replaces team coaches

PEKING, Jan 16, (Reuters): China is replacing its team coaches this month in a search for new talent and momentum after disappointing performances at the Seoul Olympics.

Olympic committee spokesman Xu Jia said today that the men's and women's volleyball and men's basketball teams have new coaches while temporary appointments have been made in swimming and weightlifting.

More changes are on the way "It's just routine," Xu said, explaining that coaches had reached the end of their four-year terms.

But Chinese sports commentators said the changes were needed after a poor showing at

the Olympics last year when China won just five gold medals after scooping 15 in Los Angeles in 1984.

"The winter training is ruined," sports official Zhang Jian was quoted as saying by the New China News Agency.

He complained that gymnasts and track and field athletes were without coaches in the middle of the important winter training period while committees met to decide on new appointments with the Asian Games less than two years away.

**Pride**  
Xu denied winter training had been affected by the reshuffle. The focus of popular attention is 33-year-old Hu Jin, who takes

over as coach of the women's volleyball team, the pride of China for years until they won a disappointing bronze medal in Seoul.

"It's not that other countries made rapid progress. It's more that we fell too fast," Hu told reporters.

Apparently an early casualty of China's showing at Seoul was Sports Minister Li Menghua — replaced last month by 49-year-old Wu Shaohu, who said he wanted athletes to train harder and along more scientific lines.

Even before the Olympics began, Chinese sports commentators and officials complained that the country's sports system was in disarray.

## Jahangir's coach plans boxing-style extravaganza

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia, Jan 16, (AP): Rehmat Khan, world squash champion Jahangir Khan's coach and cousin, says he plans a boxing-style squash extravaganza to promote a 10-city British tour later this month.

"This is sure to give the sport a fillip," he said in a weekend interview with the Associated Press while en route to Makkah to perform Umra at Islam's holiest shrines.

Rehmat disclosed that the 10-match challenge series between Jahangir, 25, and British No. 1 Del Harris would be held from Jan 21-30.

Rehmat, a Pakistani like Jahangir, said the series will have a "ring-like" atmosphere with the two players having managers and handlers in attendance during the matches.

"After every set, the players will rush to their respective corners where they'll be given a rub-down as well as instructions on the corner stools," he said.

Rehmat, whose late father Nasrullah Khan guided his younger brother Roshan Khan, Jahangir's father, to the British Open title in the 1950s, said that Jahangir and Harris will attend a "weighing-in ceremony" before the matches and enter the courts through the spectator galleries in boxing-style cloaks.

Rehmat's sporting association with Jahangir began 10 years ago when Torsam Khan, Jahangir's elder brother, died on Nov 28, 1979.

Rehmat, who had guided Torsam to becoming one of Pakistan's top squash aces, switched his attention to Jahangir, who won the world championship in 1981.

Rehmat told the AP he also envisaged a series of "Test matches" between national squash teams to widen the sport's popularity.

He said plans were under way to form teams of squash, hockey, tennis, cricket and basketball stars to compete in exhibition squash matches.

Rehmat disclosed he was toying with the idea of making a movie on the Khan family.



Kaitany crosses the finish line. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Kenyan wins marathon

HOUSTON, Jan 16, (Reuters): Spectators waving the flag of his native country spurred Kenyan Richard Kaitany to victory in a course record two hours 10 minutes four seconds at the Houston marathon yesterday.

"I felt tired when the race started, but when I saw some people from my country waving my national flag it gave me strength," Kaitany said after the race run in dense fog.

**Clocked**  
Briton Kenny Stuart finished second in 2:11:36 and American Don Janicki came in third 2:11:58.

Veronique Marot of the Britain won the women's race in

2:30:15. Kim Jones was second in 2:32:31 and fellow American Maria Trujillo clocked 2:32:47 for a third place finish.

Both winners were awarded \$25,000, but Kaitany narrowly missed a \$10,000 bonus for breaking 2:10.

"I was aware of the bonus, but at about 10 miles (16 km) I lost the time and tried to concentrate on the race," he said.

Marot, who won here three years ago, said her victory provided much needed confidence after a disappointing 1988.

"Everybody in Britain had more or less written me off, so it was nice to win," she said.

## Schneider competing against the past



Schneider on her way to first place in Sunday's slalom. (Reuters wirephoto)

GRINDELWALD, Jan 16, (AP): Vreni Schneider's only real opponent these days is a 35-year-old Austrian housewife who runs a hotel in her hometown of Kleinarl.

Having eclipsed every woman currently competing on the World Cup ski tour, the 24-year-old Schneider has moved into a realm occupied by the greatest name in the history of women's racing.

Annemarie Moser-Proell, winner of a record 62 events before retiring to her hotel in 1980, won 11 times in 1973 and 10 times in 1975.

Until yesterday, when Schneider got her 10th victory of the season by winning a slalom, Moser-Proell had been the only woman ever to break double figures in one season.

With three giant slaloms and two slaloms remaining, there is now a real chance that Schneider could move past Moser-Proell's season mark, because Schneider hasn't been beaten in a slalom or giant slalom this season. She has won four times in the giant slalom and yesterday's triumph was her fifth in as many outings in the slalom.

"That is simply the best women's skiing I've ever seen," Swiss women's coach Jan Tischhauser said after Schneider had completed two runs in 1 minute, 22.87 seconds. She overcame a 36-second deficit after the first run to win by a healthy .88

seconds over Tamara McKinney of the United States.

Monika Maierhofer of Austria, Schneider's chief rival in the slalom this season, was third in 1:23.98.

Schneider's 23rd career victory was all the more impressive because it came a short time after suffering a sprained shoulder in a spill during an early morning warm-up on the hard-packed, icy course.

"I made a big mistake in the first run, but I recovered well," said Schneider, the 1988 Olympic slalom and giant slalom champion. "When I saw how close the times were (after the morning heat), I started to speculate on a victory."

Schneider said the shoulder "hurt a little. But during the race you never feel that anymore."

**Sweep**  
McKinney, who fell in her previous slalom, said, "I'm just happy I finished and came in second today."

Even if Schneider should sweep the giant slalom and slalom in the World Alpine Championships at Vail, Colorado, beginning on Jan 29, there are silver and bronze medals to be gained in those races.

And McKinney, who has never won a medal in an Olympic or World Championship race in an otherwise distinguished 12-year career, appears as ready as she'll ever be to end that drought.



